

**12 DAYS
OF XMAS!**

Things to look
out for in the
Xmas fixtures!



WIN!

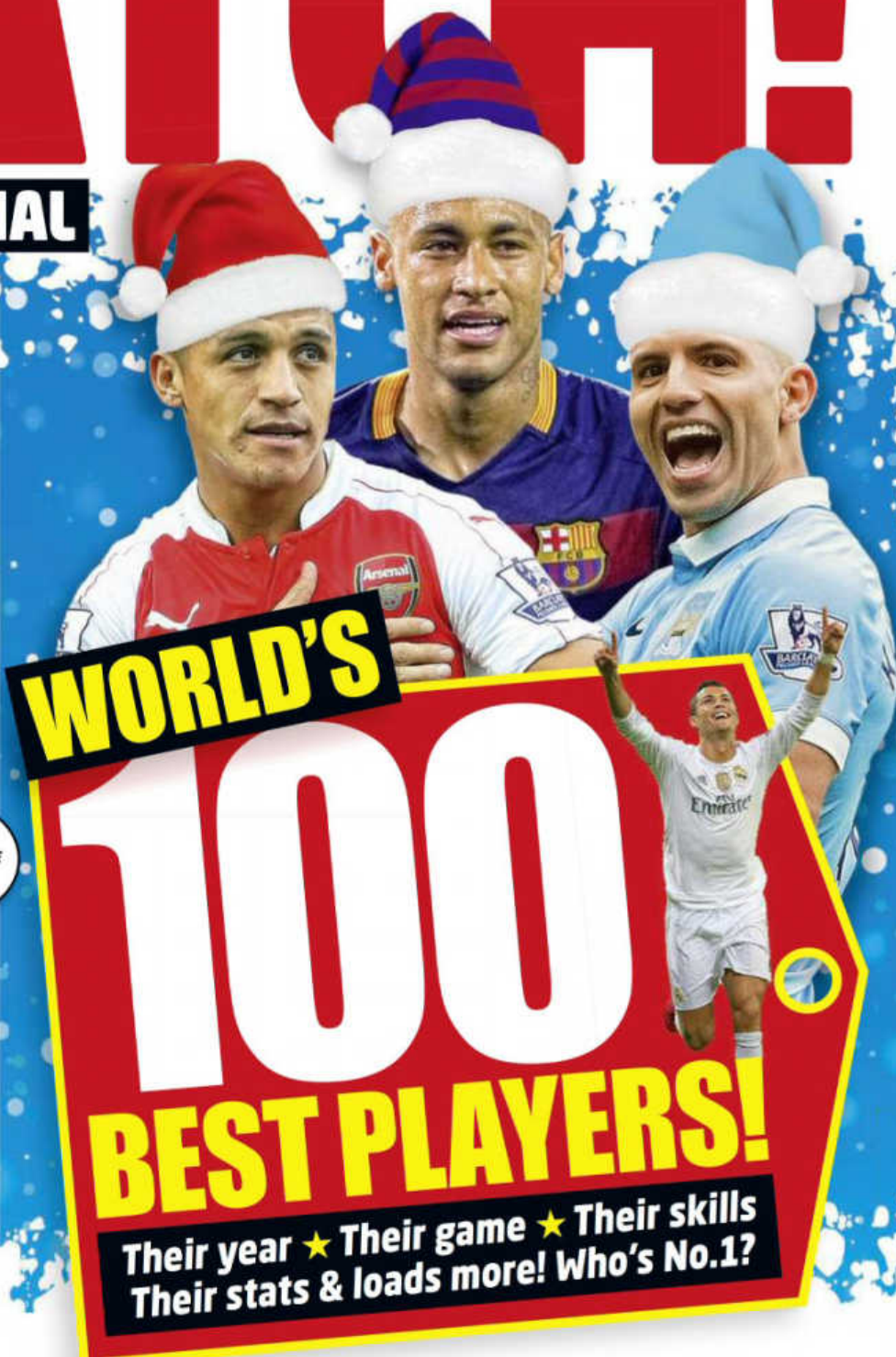
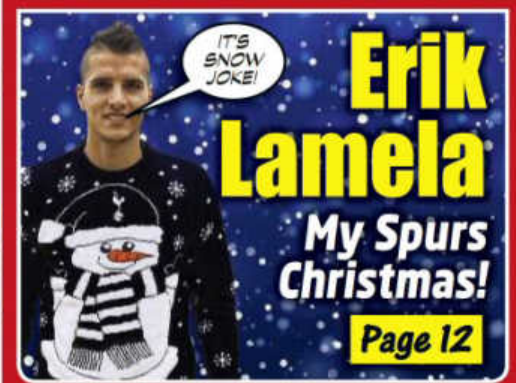
**An Apple
Watch!**

Turn to Page 34



MATCH!

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL



INSIDE!

★ EPIC FIFA 16 CHALLENGES ★ QUIZZES
★ MATCH'S SECRET SANTA & MORE!



CREATIVE
TOYS
COMPANY

ADVERTISEMENT

**2016
EDITION**

**OFFICIAL
MINI FOOTBALL
FIGURES FROM THE
PREMIER LEAGUE
& EUROPEAN
LEAGUE CLUBS!**



**THE OFFICIAL
SOCCERSTARZ SHOP**

100s TO COLLECT!

SHOP.SOCCERSTARZ.COM



**Spend £20 or more at shop.soccerstarz.com
to receive 20% off your order.
Use discount code **CHRISTMAS20****

**Offer runs from the 1st December 2015 to midnight on the 10th January 2016.
Terms and conditions apply.**

THIS ISSUE!



TOP 100 PLAYERS 22



FIFA ZONE 14



12 DAYS OF XMAS 50



XMAS STARS 20



GIFT IDEAS 42

**£1.40
A WEEK
WITH A
MATCH!
SUBSCRIPTION!**

Visit www.greatmagazines.co.uk/match

PLUS...

Merry Christmas	4	Snapped Best Of 2015...	40
Theo Walcott	6	Wordsearch	46
Ballon d'Or Battle	8	Secret Santa	48
Nathaniel Clyne	10	My Weirdest Present	52
Erik Lamela	12	Did You Know?	62
MATCHY Cartoon	13		
Footy Mis-Match	18		
Win An Apple Watch	34		
Xmas Quizzes	36 & 58		
Win Epic Prizes	38 & 54		

POSTERS

Philippe Coutinho	39
Eden Hazard	47
Harry Kane	53

**MATCH! - THE NO.1
MAG FOR FOOTY!**



PALACE PARTY!

The Eagles had to queue up for their presents...

I CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER!



I WANTED TO BE THE RED ONE!

...and they all got fancy dress costumes!

GUTTED, MATE!



ONE, TWO, THREE... PULL!

WHO'S HUNGRY?

There was chaos at City's Xmas dinner table!

FOOTY STARS WISH YOU A...

MERRY CH

Check out what footy's biggest



SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT!

GUNNERS' XMAS CAROLS!

Arsenal's main men are heading out for some carol singing!

YOU'RE HURTING MY EARS, MESUT!



WHERE ARE MY EAR MUFFS?

CHILLY HAMMERS!

Randolph and Adrian are all wrapped up ready for winter!

You can get your own Arsenal Christmas jumper at ArsenalDirect.com - 20% of the full retail price from each jumper will be donated to the Arsenal Foundation.



WHO ATE ALL THE PIGS IN BLANKETS?

THE BIG GUY CAN'T DO IT ALL ON HIS OWN!



ELF-ATIMBI GOMIS!

Bafetimbi is one of Santa's little helpers!



YOU'RE GOING DOWN, KUN!

JUST BRING IT, LEO!

FESTIVE FIFA!

Gives us a game, lads!

CHRISTMAS!

heroes are up to this Christmas!



XMAS TOFFEES!

Everton's stars can't wait for the 'You've Been Framed' Xmas Special!

SAY CHEESE, KEV!

THIS IS SO LOL, MACCA!

The official Everton Christmas jumper is on sale now. Turn to page 45 for more details.



MERRY XMAS, MATCH FANS!

CHRISTMAS CORK-ER!

Jack's well pumped for Christmas Day!

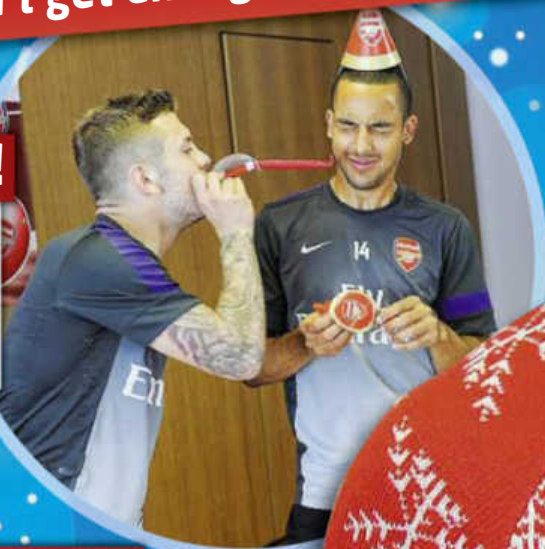
WALCOTT'S

WINTER WO

ARSENAL goal machine **THEO WALCOTT** tells **MATCH** why he can't get enough of Christmas!

Arsenal's Xmas party!

THEO SAYS: "I think we will have a joint party with the team and staff. We might go for karaoke and bowling this year - just have some fun with Christmas tunes and dancing! We wore our Christmas jumpers last year, so we might wear them again!"



Secret Santa!

THEO SAYS: "I would pick Aaron Ramsey, and I would buy him his own personalised hairdryer because he's always doing his hair in the mirror!"



Last-minute shopping!

THEO SAYS: "I never do any last-minute shopping because I'm really organised, so I finished my Christmas shopping early. All I need to do now is the wrapping!"



Splashing out!

THEO SAYS: "The most expensive present has to be a charm bracelet that I bought for my wife once... it really added up!"



UNDERLAND!

Buzzing team-mate!

THEO SAYS: "Kieran Gibbs gets the most excited about Christmas out of everyone at Arsenal. He has a lot of young nephews, nieces and cousins, so he gets really excited for them."



Festive plans!

THEO SAYS: "I've spent the last few Christmases with my brother and Mel's family, but this year it's just me, Mel and Finlay so it will be nice. We have a game the next day so we'll have a chilled day."



Xmas dinner!

THEO SAYS: "My favourite part of Christmas dinner is pigs in blankets, always! I don't cook, but I do the washing up afterwards!"



Treating yourself!

THEO SAYS: "I don't normally give myself treats around Christmas, but I like to have a bit of Christmas pudding - it's all part of the day!"

Boxing Day footy!

THEO SAYS: "I really enjoy it! There are always so many children in the crowd and it's something that's different to other countries that have a winter break. People love going to football around Christmas - sometimes it's as a gift and they might not get the opportunity to go again - so it's great to be involved in that."



Junior Gunners get exclusive content on Arsenal Player!

- ▶ JG v Players - Junior Gunners take on players in fun challenges!
- ▶ JG Challenges - See Arsenal megastars go head-to-head!
- ▶ JG Interview - You get to ask your heroes questions!
- ▶ Gunner v Players - Gunnersaurus challenges players!

Sign up as a JG at www.arsenal.com/juniorgunners

You can get your own Arsenal Xmas jumper at ArsenalDirect.com - 20% of the full retail price from each jumper will be donated to the Arsenal Foundation.

MASSIVE STARS!

BALLON D'OR



Messi has won the Ballon d'Or a record four times! What a ledge!

MESSI



- ✓ Treble winner with Barcelona last season!
- ✓ Led Argentina to the final of the Copa America!
- ✓ Over 60 goals and assists in all comps in 2015!
- ✗ Hasn't played much this season because of injury!



NEYMAR



UEFA'S ULTIMATE LINE-UP!

The UEFA Team Of The Year shortlist is out, too! Check out this megastar line-up of **players that have appeared in the team most often** over the years. What an XI!



PIPE DOWN, EDEN!

Chelsea superstar **Eden Hazard** posted a video of himself singing on Instagram recently! Don't quit your day job, mate!

BATTLE!

One of these footy legends will be officially crowned the best player on the planet when FIFA announce their **2015 Ballon d'Or** winner next month! But who will it be?

Neymar would be the first Brazilian to win the Ballon d'Or since Kaka in 2007!

THREE YEARS IN A ROW FOR RON!

Ronaldo has finished runner-up to Messi three times for the trophy!

YOU DECIDE!
Who do you think deserves to win? Tell us by posting on our Facebook page now!

✓ Fired Barça to the top of La Liga when Messi was injured!

✓ Joint-top scorer in last season's Champo League!

✓ La Liga top scorer after 13 games!

✗ Messi and Ron have won the last seven Ballon d'Ors between them!

RONALDO



✓ Top goalscorer in La Liga last season with 48 strikes!

✓ Broke Real Madrid's all-time scoring record!

✓ Bagged his 500th career goal in September!

✗ The footy legend hasn't won a major trophy this year!

POTM November

Jamie Vardy has won his second Player Of The Month award in a row after you voted him November's top Prem star!



VARDY Leicester 43%

OZIL Arsenal 28%

COUTINHO Liverpool 23%

GOTM November

Andre Ayew's class backheel finish against Bournemouth was voted as MATCH's Goal Of The Month for November!



AYEW SWANSEA v Bournemouth 48%

SKRTEL Man. City v LIVERPOOL 30%

SMITH BOURNEMOUTH v Everton 23%

YOUR

CHRISTMAS QUESTIONS ANSWERED!



NATHANIEL CLYNE!

The awesome
LIVERPOOL and
ENGLAND defender
tackles questions
from the **MATCH**
readers!



Do you like playing
footy in the snow?

From William Moran

CLYNE SAYS: "Yeah, I like it
- I always go out in the snow
and play. Seeing people fall
and slip over is pretty fun!"



What's the best
Christmas present
you've ever had?

From Phillip Jackson

CLYNE SAYS: "I haven't had
a good Christmas present in
ages! Probably a PlayStation
- I was 12 when I got my first
one. I'm pretty good at FIFA!"



What's playing football
at Christmas like?

From Will Roberts

CLYNE SAYS: "It was definitely
strange at first, but I'm used
to it now. I've been playing
professional football for some
time, so I'm used to training
on Christmas Day and playing
matches on Boxing Day!"



How do you celebrate
Christmas with your
team-mates?

From Callum McDonnell

CLYNE SAYS: "There's a
Secret Santa where we all
pull players' names out of a
hat and then buy them a gift.
At Palace, we always used to
go out for a Christmas party,
but I don't think we'll be
doing that at Liverpool!"



Do you wish you could pig out on Xmas Day?

From Jamie Godsell

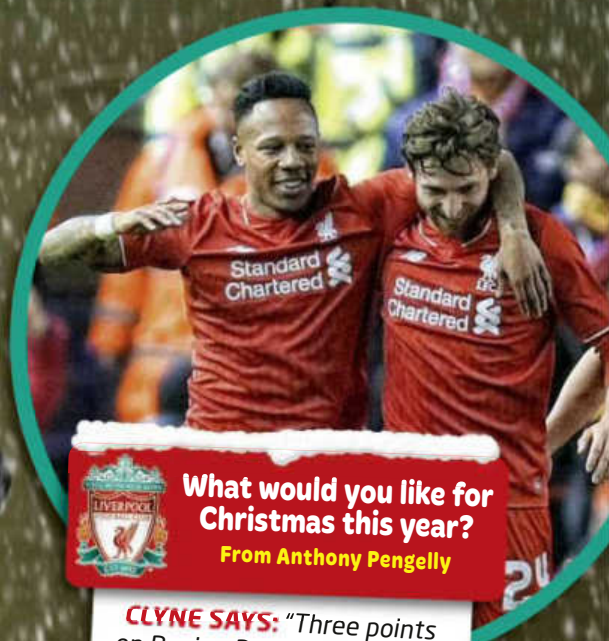
CLYNE SAYS: "Yeah, it's hard when all your family get such a good dinner! I get jealous when I see my other family members eating so much and enjoying the evening!"



How does training at Christmas differ to the rest of the season?

From Harry Evans

CLYNE SAYS: "It's tough because most of the players want to be with their families, but they have to train. I don't really mind though, because I love playing football. There's so many games, so you've got to be mentally strong and fit!"



What would you like for Christmas this year?

From Anthony Pengelly

CLYNE SAYS: "Three points on Boxing Day and a goal! My mum always gives me socks and boxers, so that'll probably be what I get this year!"

Nathaniel Clyne was supporting the biggest grassroots football tournament in the country - the English Schools' FA PlayStation Schools' Cup. Since its launch, over 150,000 players have been involved. For more info, visit www.playstationschoolscup.com

XMAS CHAT!

ERIK LAMELA'S CHRISTMAS!



MATCH chats to **SPURS** star **ERIK LAMELA** about what he'll be up to this Christmas!

CHRISTMAS IN ENGLAND!

ERIK SAYS: "It's a lot colder here and I think people celebrate it more in England. Living here means I play during Christmas, but I didn't when I was in Italy and Argentina."



TRAINING ON CHRISTMAS DAY!

ERIK SAYS: "It's very different to Argentina, where the weather is much hotter - my family and I tend to spend it relaxing by the pool. This year I'll be training in the cold!"



SPURS' CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS!

ERIK SAYS: "We have Christmas lunch together at the club with all the coaches and players. We might watch some Christmas TV and enjoy the snow, too - if it happens!"



HIS CHRISTMAS PLANS!

ERIK SAYS: "I'll train in the morning, then in the afternoon my family are coming over from Argentina - my parents and girlfriend will be there. It's my dog's first Christmas, too!"



HIS BEST CHRISTMAS EVER!

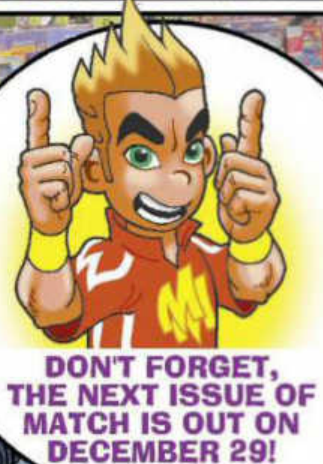
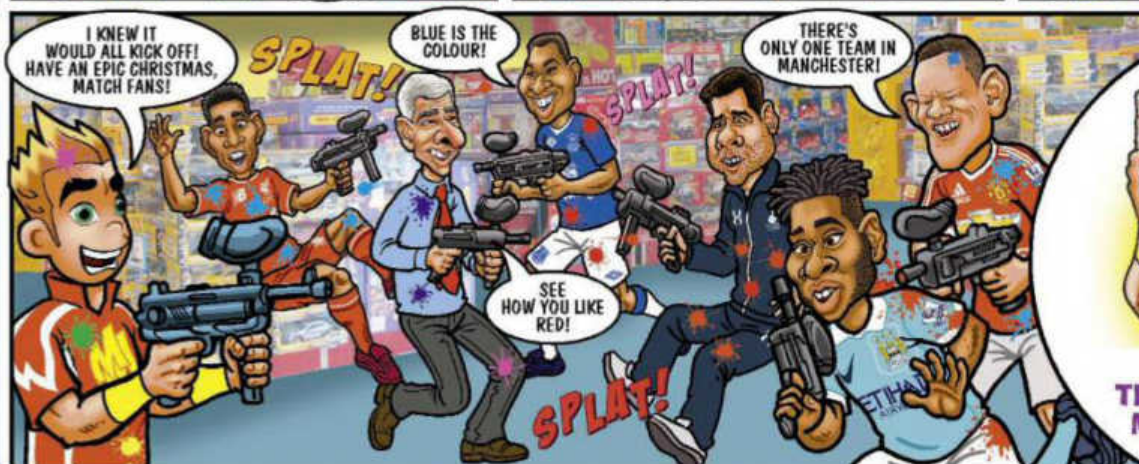
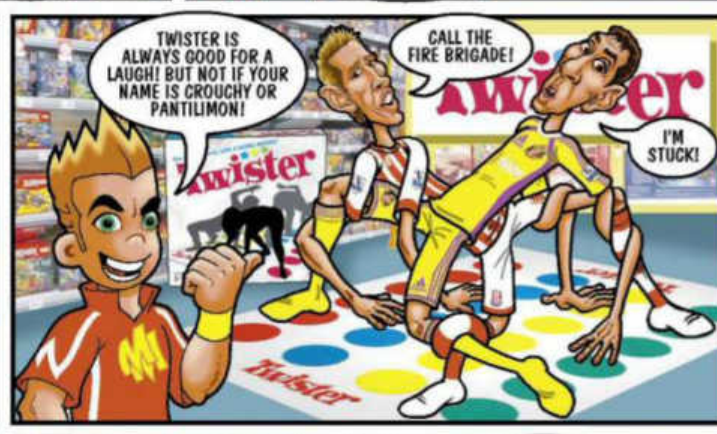
ERIK SAYS: "When I was young, I remember being in Italy one year and I got so many presents - that was probably my best Christmas! I've had lots of great presents, but don't really have one in particular!"



Erik's wearing this year's Tottenham Christmas jumper. Prices range from £20-£30, available to buy online at shop.tottenhamhotspur.com

THE AWESOME ADVENTURES OF

MATCHMAN



FIFA 16 ZONE!



10 NEW WAYS OF PLAYING FIFA!

*If you love taking on your mates at FIFA as much as we do, then you have to check this out! **MATCH** has come up with ten ways of making your FIFA head-to-heads a bit different!*

1



JUST LIKE WATCHING BARCELONA!

If you love possession footy, then try playing like the La Liga giants! The rules are simple - **you can't score until you've completed ten passes!** Keep count as you knock the ball around, but if you give it away you have to start again from zero!



2



DREAM TEAM!

STEP 1

Choose a club to turn into your very own dream team, then go to Edit Teams in the Customise tab and select Club Transfers!

STEP 2

Take it in turns to transfer any players you want to your chosen club using the search button, until you both have a squad of 16.

STEP 3

Then go head-to-head with your awesome dream teams! You can undo all the changes afterwards by hitting Restore Default Squads in Club Transfers!



3



SCREAMERS ONLY!

This will test your long-range shooting skills - **you can't score from inside the penalty box!** When you're lining up a shot, make sure you stay out of the area, and if you are awarded a penalty you'll just have to miss it!



4

ATTACK v DEFENCE!



STEP 1

Pick your teams, and toss a coin to decide who'll be defending and who'll be attacking.

STEP 2

When the game starts, use the D-pad to change your team's approach. Defensive team - hit the left button to 'Park The Bus', and for the attacking team, press right to go 'All-Out Attack' - you can't change during the game!

STEP 3

Now take it in turns to play as the defensive and attacking teams - the first to five wins is the champion. Go! Go! Go!

5



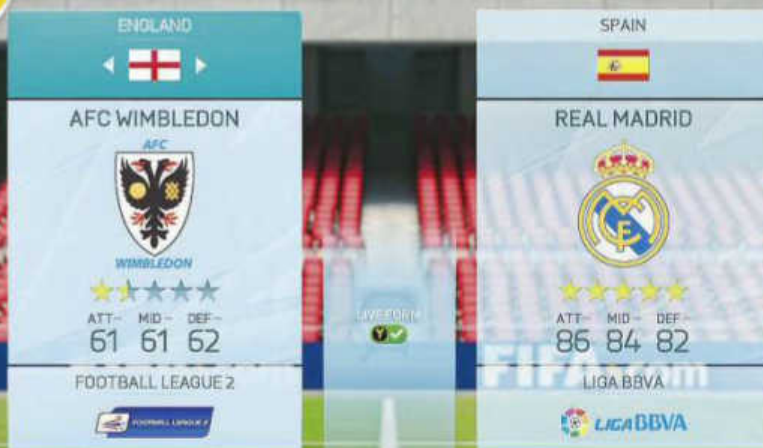
RUSH KEEPER

The rules are simple - as soon as the other team enter your half of the pitch, **you have to bring your keeper out** by holding the sprint button and pressing Y/Triangle. You can't stop holding Y/Triangle until the ball leaves your half or your team wins the ball back! The scoreline will end up in double figures!

HOW DOES FATHER CHRISTMAS PLAY FIFA 16? ON A SLEIGH-STATION!



6



RANDOMISE!

STEP 1

When choosing teams, each player is allowed to press random five times to select the league.

STEP 2

After each random pick, you can choose to stick with that league, or gamble by hitting it again - but only up to five times!

STEP 3

Once you've got your league, use the same process again to choose your club. You could end up with a real mis-match!

7



HEADERS & VOLLEYS!

The clue is in the name - **you can only score with a header or a volley!** Whip crosses in, chip the ball up for your team-mates or set yourself up with a trick to bag your goals! Our FIFA 16 Calendar tips can help you with this!



8

SKILLS CHALLENGES!

SKILL GAMES > SELECT CATEGORY



There are loads of epic skill games on FIFA 16! Choose from one of the categories - Basics, Passing, Dribbling, Defending or Shooting - and **take it in turns to have a go at each challenge.** Keep a tally of how many points you score and see who can get the most!



9

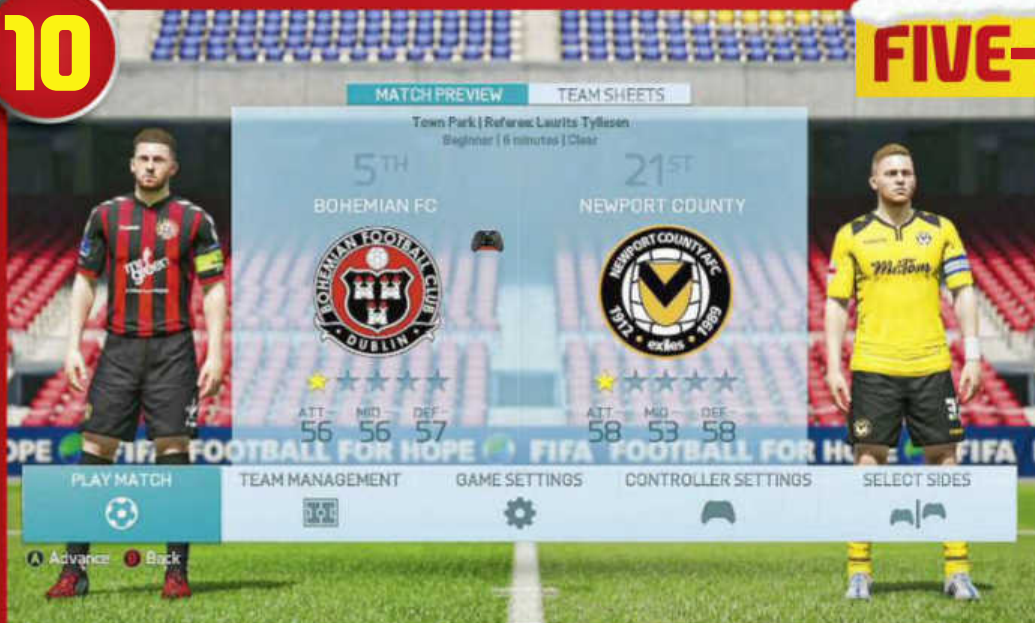


KNOCK IT LONG!

In this rule, you can't play more than three passes! After your third pass, you have to dribble the rest of the way, shoot or give it back to the other team!



10



FIVE-STAR RACE!

STEP 1

First, each player has to pick a one-star team!

STEP 2

Whoever wins the first match then moves on to a two-star team for the next match, while the loser stays on one!

STEP 3

When a player gets to five-stars, they go back down the stars again! The first person to get back down to a one-star team and win is the champ!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send us your teams, questions and videos by email, Facebook or Twitter. We'll include as many posts as we can, and your name could appear in a future issue of the magazine!



Email:
match.magazine@bauermedia.co.uk

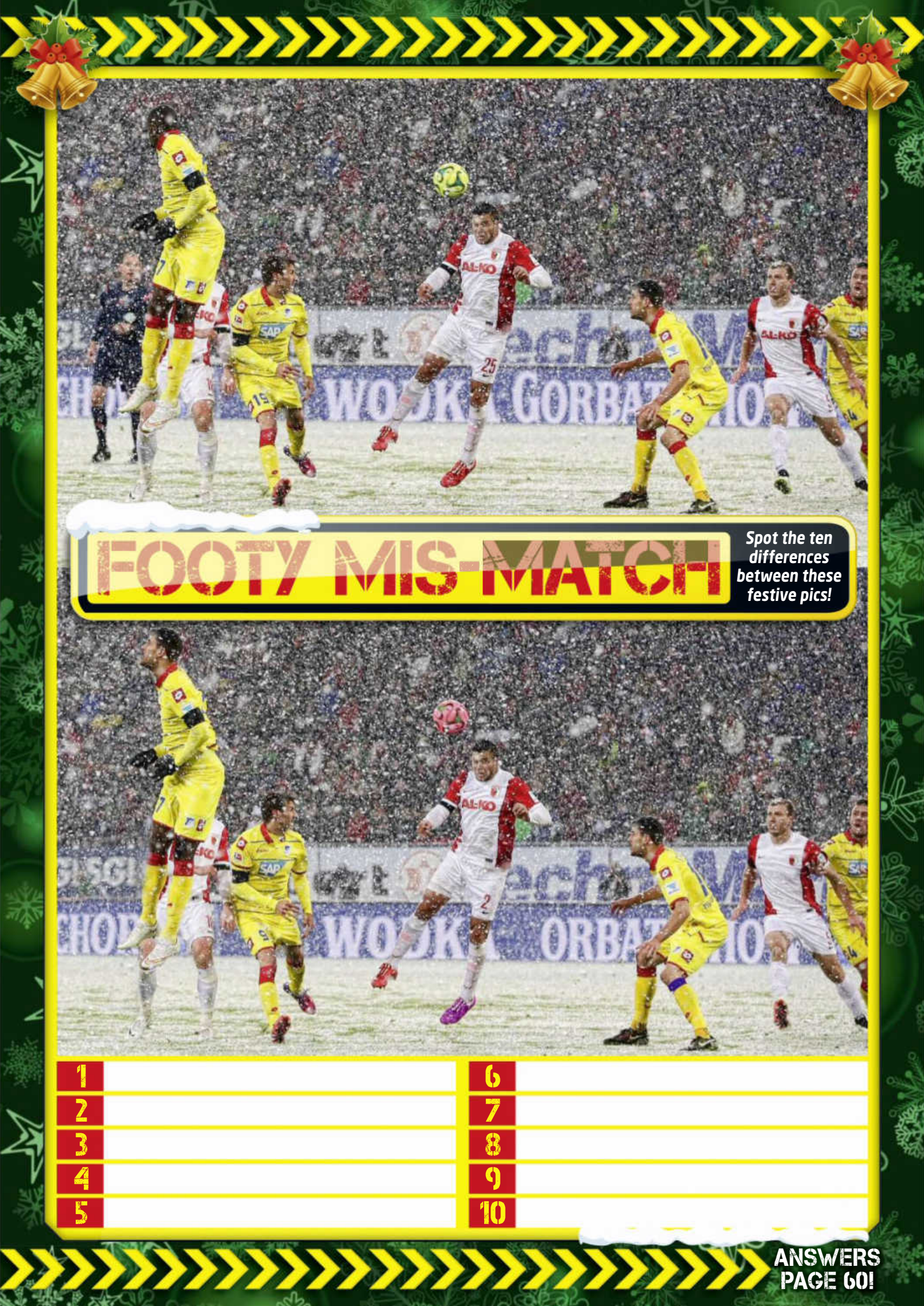


Facebook:
www.facebook.com/matchmagazine



Twitter:
www.twitter.com/matchmagazine





FOOTY MIS-MATCH

Spot the ten differences between these festive pics!

1
2
3
4
5

6
7
8
9
10

ON SALE NOW!

MATCH ANNUAL 2016



ON SALE! In store: Available from all good bookshops!
Online: www.panmacmillan.com/match2016

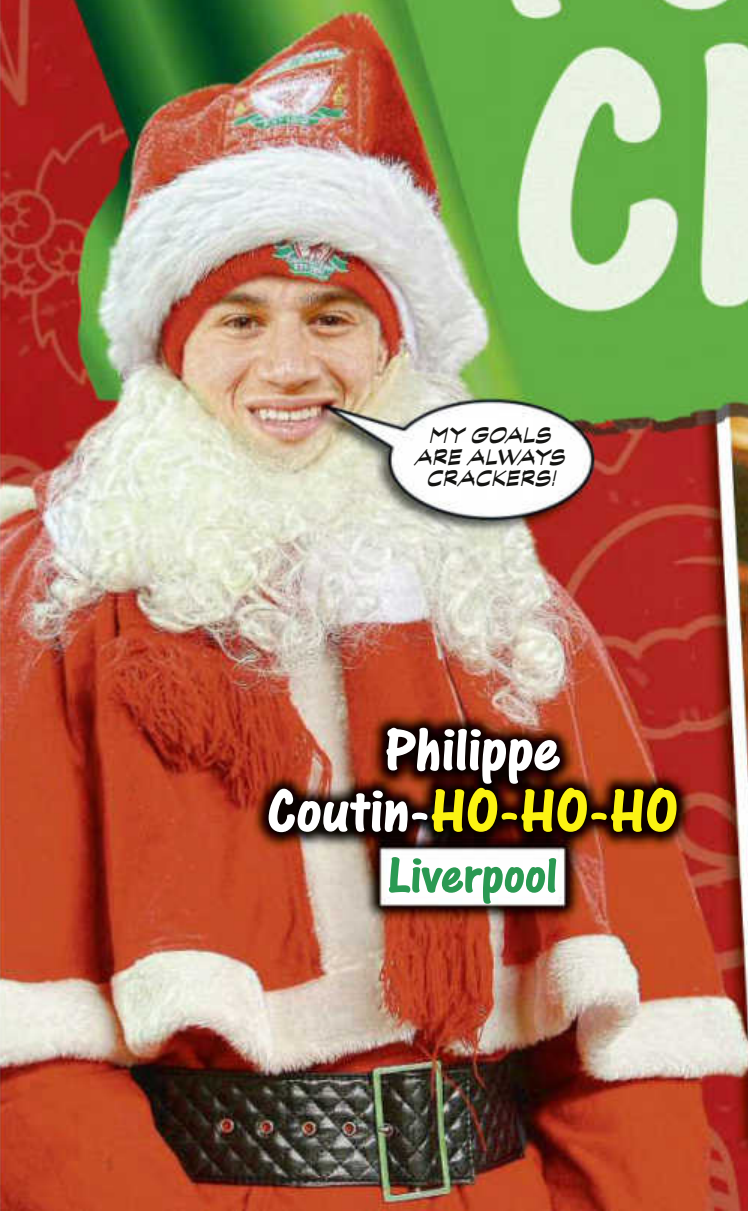


Harry
CANDY CANE
Tottenham

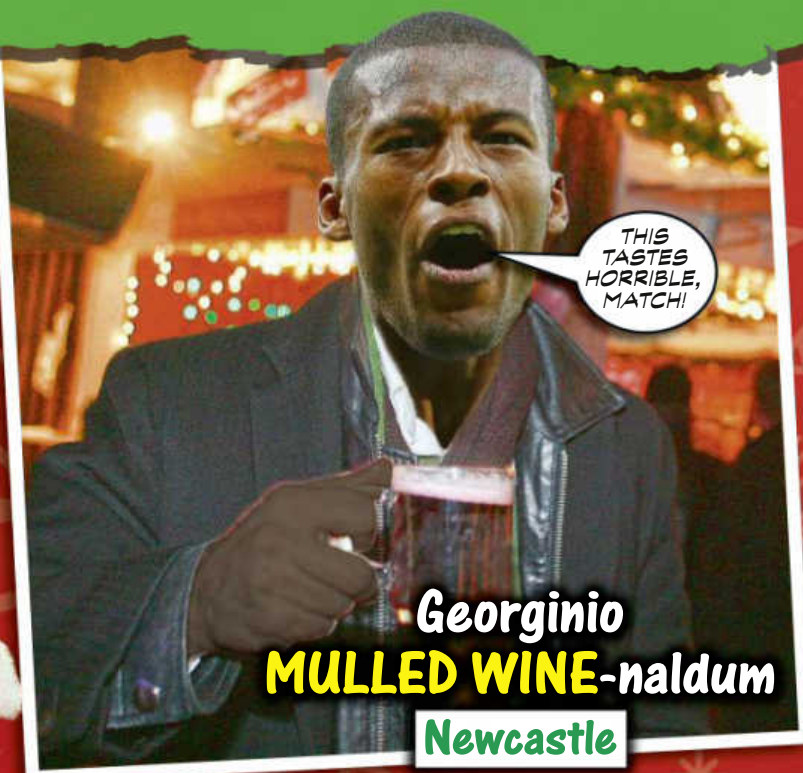


Jamie **CHRISTMAS CARD-y**
Leicester

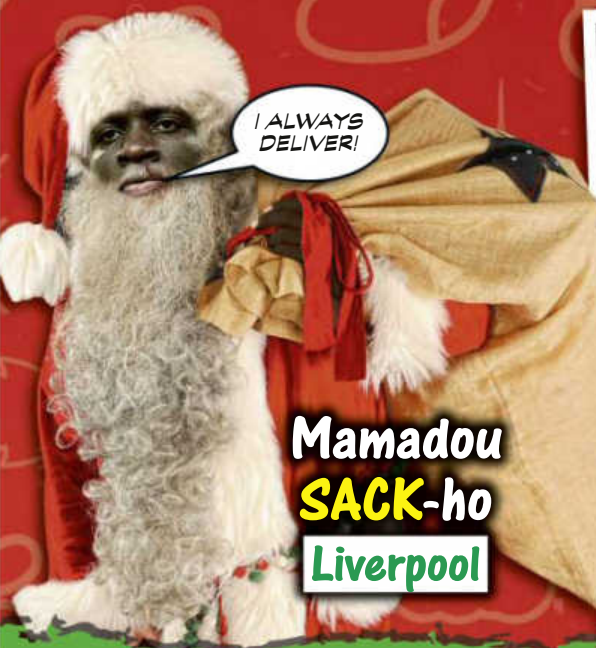
Footy sta Christm



Philippe
Coutin-HO-HO-HO
Liverpool



Georginio
MULLED WINE-naldum
Newcastle



I ALWAYS
DELIVER!

Mamadou
SACK-ho
Liverpool



GOBBLE,
GOBBLE,
GOBBLE!

TURKEY Sung-yueng
Swansea



Kurt **SATSUMA**
Chelsea

rs at as!

MATCH reckons
these heroes
will be great
this Xmas!



MY
SACK'S
FULL OF
TRICKS!



SANTA
Cazorla
Arsenal



I MAKE
MINCEMEAT OF
DEFENDERS!

Memphis De-
MINCE PIE
Man. United

WHY
DIDN'T THE
SKELETON GO TO
THE XMAS PARTY?
HE HAD NO BODY
TO GO WITH!

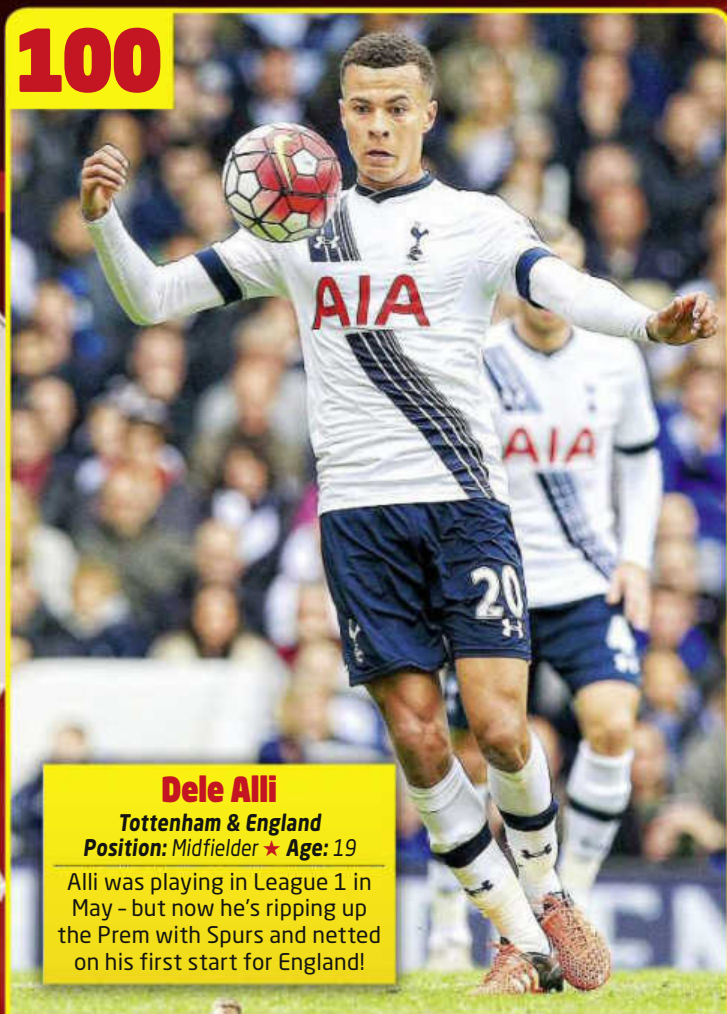




THE TOP 100 PLAYERS IN THE WORLD 2015

***MATCH counts down the greatest footy stars of 2015,
then gives you the chance to have your say and
win an awesome Apple Watch Sport!***

100



Dele Alli

Tottenham & England
Position: Midfielder ★ **Age:** 19

Alli was playing in League 1 in May - but now he's ripping up the Prem with Spurs and netted on his first start for England!

99



Cesc Fabregas

Chelsea & Spain
Position: Midfielder ★ **Age:** 28

Cesc has struggled this season, but he rocked for Spain against England and couldn't stop bagging assists in 2014-15!

98



Theo Walcott

Arsenal & England
Position: Forward ★ **Age:** 26

Arsene Wenger's finally stuck Theo up front and he's doing the business! He scored the opening goal in the FA Cup final in May!

97

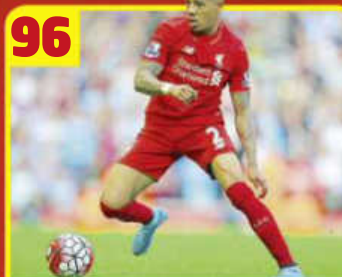


Riyad Mahrez

Leicester & Algeria
Position: Winger ★ **Age:** 24

The awesome trickster helped keep The Foxes up last season before making a blistering start to the 2015-16 campaign!

96



Nathaniel Clyne

Liverpool & England
Position: Right-back ★ **Age:** 24

Clyne's had a class 2015! The full-back's epic form bagged him a huge move to Liverpool and now he's an England regular!

95



Nemanja Matic

Chelsea & Serbia
Position: Def. midfielder ★ **Age:** 27

This midfield boss bagged the Prem title with Chelsea in May after totally owning midfield battles with his mega power!

94



Christian Benteke

Liverpool & Belgium
Position: Striker ★ **Age:** 25

The big Belgian got a move to Liverpool after his net-busters kept Aston Villa up! His power and heading are off the charts!

93



Romelu Lukaku

Everton & Belgium
Position: Striker ★ **Age:** 22

Lukaku has been on fire in 2015! Only Jamie Vardy had more Prem goals than the Everton ace after 14 games this season!

92



Andrea Pirlo

New York City & Italy
Position: Midfielder ★ **Age:** 36

Pirlo rocked as Juve reached the CL final last season! He might be in the MLS now, but he's still one of the world's best passers!

91



Charlie Austin

QPR & England
Position: Striker ★ **Age:** 26

Austin's 18 Prem goals couldn't keep QPR up last season, but he's still banging them in for The R's in the Championship!

90



Cesar Azpilicueta

Chelsea & Spain
Position: Full-back ★ **Age:** 26

Cesar won the Prem title and Capital One Cup with The Blues in 2015, and is one of the best full-backs in the league!

89



Felipe Anderson

Lazio & Brazil
Position: Winger ★ **Age:** 22

Man. United were linked with Anderson in the summer, and there's a good reason for that - he's rapid and busts net!

88



Morgan Schneiderlin

Man. United & France
Position: Def. midfielder ★ **Age:** 26

Schneiderlin is becoming one of the best DMs on the planet! He totally rocked for Southampton and Man. United in 2015!

87



Paulo Dybala

Juventus & Argentina
Position: Striker ★ Age: 22

No-one got more Serie A assists than Dybala last season! His awesome form earned him a massive move to Juventus!

86



Chris Smalling

Man. United & England
Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 26

Smalling is a solid, ball-playing centre-back who's now The Red Devils' first-choice defender! He's rocked for England, too!

85



Luca Toni

Verona & Italy
Position: Striker ★ Age: 38

How is Toni still busting nets at the age of 38? The Italy legend was the joint-top goalscorer in Serie A last season - he's a freak!

84



Ashley Williams

Swansea & Wales
Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 31

Williams captained his country to Euro 2016 qualification and is Swansea's main man at the back - what a total beast!

83



Hector Bellerin

Arsenal & Spain
Position: Right-back ★ Age: 20

2015 was Hector's breakthrough year! He's absolutely rapid and has a massive future now he's forced Debuchy out of the team!

82



Raphael Varane

Real Madrid & France
Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 22

Varane's only 22, but helping a Euro mega club keep clean sheets doesn't faze him! He's first choice for France, too!

81



David Luiz

PSG & Brazil
Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 28

Luiz has finally started to show why he cost £50 million by bagging an epic domestic treble with French giants PSG in 2015!

80

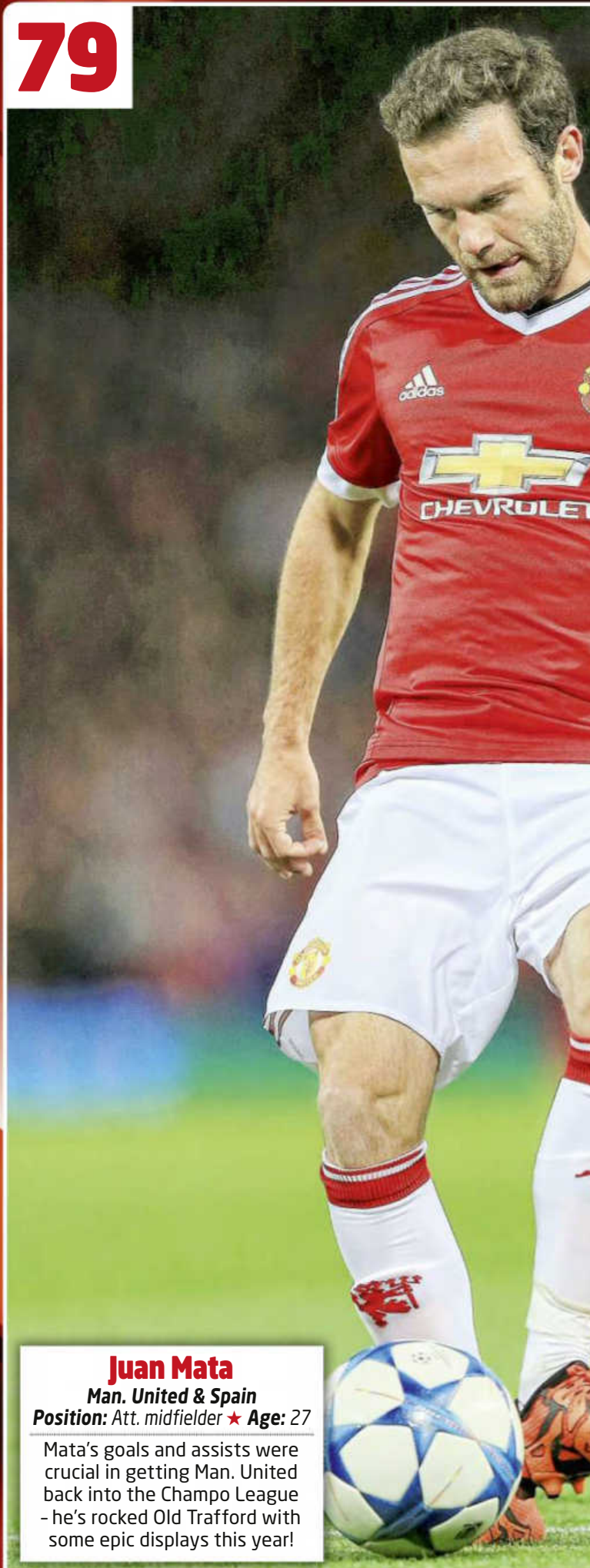


Anthony Martial

Man. United & France
Position: Forward ★ Age: 20

Martial cost loads, but he's been worth it! A run of red-hot form for The Red Devils was followed by his France debut. Legend!

79



Juan Mata

Man. United & Spain
Position: Att. midfielder ★ Age: 27

Mata's goals and assists were crucial in getting Man. United back into the Champo League - he's rocked Old Trafford with some epic displays this year!

**78****Gianluigi Buffon***Juventus & Italy***Position:** Goalkeeper ★ **Age:** 37

The Italy giant's shot-stopping skills took Juve all the way to the CL final. Amazingly, he still hasn't won the famous trophy!

77**Xabi Alonso***Bayern Munich & Spain***Position:** Def. midfielder ★ **Age:** 34

Ancient star Xabi is still running midfielders and won the German title with Bayern in 2014-15! His passing is absolutely incredible!

76**Jackson Martinez***Atletico Madrid & Colombia***Position:** Striker ★ **Age:** 29

Martinez tore last season's CL apart as Porto made it to the quarter-finals, and now he's leading the line for Atletico!

75**Koke***Atletico Madrid & Spain***Position:** Att. midfielder ★ **Age:** 23

Koke's been ace for Atletico in 2015! His pinpoint passing and sick set-pieces helped him bag ten league assists last season!

74**Alvaro Morata***Juventus & Spain***Position:** Striker ★ **Age:** 23

Morata scored in the CL semis and final - and even though Juve lost in Berlin, he still got a league and cup double in 2014-15!

73**Fernandinho***Man. City & Brazil***Position:** Midfielder ★ **Age:** 30

Fernandinho has been one of the Prem's best players this season! He makes awesome box-to-box runs and loves scoring worldies!

72**Aaron Ramsey***Arsenal & Wales***Position:** Midfielder ★ **Age:** 24

Rambo bagged Wales a place at Euro 2016, won the FA Cup and bossed Arsenal's midfield - he's been epic for club and country!

71**Miralem Pjanic***Roma & Bosnia***Position:** Att. midfielder ★ **Age:** 25

2015 has been an epic year for the playmaker! Pjanic is an assist king and he's one of the best free-kick takers around!

70**Luka Modric***Real Madrid & Croatia***Position:** Midfielder ★ **Age:** 30

Modric's vision and dribbling skills always keep opponents guessing! He'd be even higher if he wasn't injured so often!

69**John Stones***Everton & England***Position:** Centre-back ★ **Age:** 21

Chelsea were desperate to sign Stones last summer! He's cool on the ball, a class tackler and has a monster footy brain!

68**Thiago Alcantara***Bayern Munich & Spain***Position:** Midfielder ★ **Age:** 24

Thiago's played everywhere in Bayern's midfield! The versatile Spain star owns games with his passing and footy brain!

67**Paco Alcacer***Valencia & Spain***Position:** Striker ★ **Age:** 22

Alcacer has been busting nets all year! He fired Valencia back into the CL and was Spain's top scorer in Euro 2016 qualifying!

66



Hulk

Zenit & Brazil

Position: Forward ★ Age: 29

The Brazil beast won the Russian title under Andre Villas-Boas and has started this season's CL on fire!

65



Mats Hummels

Borussia Dortmund & Germany

Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 26

Mats helped save Dortmund's rubbish season in the first half of 2015, and he's been a rock at the back so far this season!

64



Diego Godin

Atletico Madrid & Uruguay

Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 29

Godin totally bosses Atletico's defence! He's epic in the air, tough in the tackle and pops up with important goals too!

63



Marco Reus

Borussia Dortmund & Germany

Position: Forward ★ Age: 26

Reus' return from injury helped kick-start Dortmund's season in January. He's got bags of pace and is an ice-cool finisher!

62



Olivier Giroud

Arsenal & France

Position: Striker ★ Age: 29

Giroud's getting the goals to prove that Arsenal don't need another striker - he's bagged 20+ in 2015 for The Gunners!

61



Edinson Cavani

PSG & Uruguay

Position: Striker ★ Age: 28

Cavani has been red-hot for PSG in 2015, and that's seen him linked with some massive Premier League clubs again!

60



Laurent Koscielny

Arsenal & France

Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 30

Arsenal's unsung hero has been a star for club and country in 2015! He's one of the first names on The Gunners' teamsheet!

59



Marcelo

Real Madrid & Brazil

Position: Left-back ★ Age: 27

Marcelo is one of the best LBs in the world! He bombs forward and has been a major threat for Real Madrid all year long!

58



Sergio Ramos

Real Madrid & Spain

Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 29

Ramos is a complete boss at the back, and became Real's skipper in the summer after his massive transfer saga with Man. United!

57



Alexandre Lacazette

Lyon & France

Position: Striker ★ Age: 24

2015 was a great year for Lacazette - he couldn't stop scoring for Lyon thanks to his ace finishing and blistering pace!

56



Diego Costa

Chelsea & Spain

Position: Striker ★ Age: 27

Costa hit the goals that fired Chelsea to the title last season! He'd be much higher if he hadn't gone so off the boil in 2015-16!

55



Raheem Sterling

Man. City & England

Position: Forward ★ Age: 21

Sterling cost City £49 million, but it looks money well spent as he's been bagging goals and assists for fun this season!

54





Willian

Chelsea & Brazil

Position: Att. midfielder ★ **Age:** 27

Willian has been one of Chelsea's most consistent players in 2015! He runs his socks off all game and has become one of the best free-kick takers in the world!

53



Douglas Costa

Bayern Munich & Brazil

Position: Winger ★ **Age:** 25

This skilful winger sealed a big move to Bayern in the summer, and he's ripping up Germany with his tricks and assists!

52



John Terry

Chelsea & England

Position: Centre-back ★ **Age:** 35

JT isn't getting any younger, but he's still one of the best Prem defenders! The Blues skipper won a fourth league title in May!

51



Dani Alves

Barcelona & Brazil

Position: Right-back ★ **Age:** 32

Alves is a monster down Barça's right wing! His surging runs helped the Spanish giants win a famous treble in 2014-15!

50



Carlos Tevez

Boca Juniors & Argentina

Position: Striker ★ **Age:** 31

Tevez made history by winning both the Italian and Argentinian doubles in 2015! He also played in May's Champo League final!

49



Joe Hart

Man. City & England

Position: Goalkeeper ★ **Age:** 28

Hart cemented his place as one of Europe's top keepers in 2015! His highlights include saving a Lionel Messi penalty in the CL!

48



Giorgio Chiellini

Juventus & Italy

Position: Centre-back ★ **Age:** 31

Chiellini missed the CL final, but was a big reason for Juve getting there! The defensive rock won Serie A and the Coppa Italia, too!

47



Philipp Lahm

Bayern Munich & Germany

Position: Full-back/Mid. ★ **Age:** 32

After retiring from international footy, Lahm bossed 2015! He can play anyway and has one of the biggest footy brains around!

46



Marco Verratti

PSG & Italy

Position: Midfielder ★ **Age:** 23

Verratti's one of the cleverest playmakers in the world and won a treble in 2015! Barça have been linked with him big-time!

45



Wayne Rooney

Man. United & England

Position: Forward ★ Age: 30

The United and England skipper broke The Three Lions' all-time goals record and helped get The Red Devils back into the CL!

44



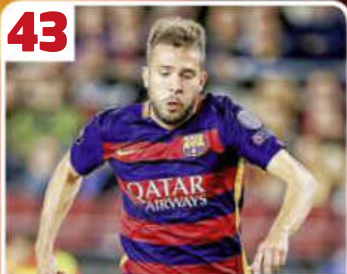
Carlos Bacca

AC Milan & Colombia

Position: Striker ★ Age: 29

Red-hot form, lethal finishing and a Europa League triumph with Sevilla earned Bacca a £21.3 million move to AC Milan!

43



Jordi Alba

Barcelona & Spain

Position: Left-back ★ Age: 26

Lightning-quick Alba won the treble with Barça in 2015! He bagged a place in La Liga's Team Of The Season, too!

42



Nolito

Celta Vigo & Spain

Position: Winger ★ Age: 29

Nolito is now a Spain regular, got tons of La Liga assists and scored the opener in Celta's 4-1 thrashing of Barcelona!

41



Vincent Kompany

Man. City & Belgium

Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 29

Kompany is class! He's helped City keep clean sheets for fun in 2015-16, and guided Belgium to Euro 2016 qualification!

40



Jerome Boateng

Bayern Munich & Germany

Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 27

Boateng won the Bundesliga title in 2015, is Bayern's best out-and-out defender and is a certain starter for Germany!

39



Gonzalo Higuain

Napoli & Argentina

Position: Striker ★ Age: 27

Higuain is a goal king! The Napoli striker bagged 18 league goals last season and has already hit double figures in 2015-16!

38



Dimitri Payet

West Ham & France

Position: Att. midfielder ★ Age: 28

Payet created the most chances in Europe's top five leagues last season, and was on fire for The Hammers before his injury!

37



Jamie Vardy

Leicester & England

Position: Striker ★ Age: 28

Vardy made his England debut in June, then broke a Premier League record by scoring in 11 back-to-back games. Could a mega move be on the cards?

**36****Santi Cazorla****Arsenal & Spain****Position:** Midfielder ★ **Age:** 30

Spain wizard Santi runs games from his deep-lying midfield role, got tons of assists in 2015 and bagged the FA Cup in May!

35**Yaya Toure****Man. City & Ivory Coast****Position:** Midfielder ★ **Age:** 32

Nobody can get close to Yaya when he's in top form! His mix of pace, power and lethal long shots has totally owned 2015!

34**Philippe Coutinho****Liverpool & Brazil****Position:** Att. midfielder ★ **Age:** 23

Coutinho bossed 2015 and hit some epic worldies! Barça have been sniffing around him for ages, and it's easy to see why!

33**David Alaba****Bayern Munich & Austria****Position:** Defender/Mid. ★ **Age:** 23

Alaba plays wherever Guardiola needs him! The Austria ace fired his country to Euro 2016 and won the Bundesliga title, too!

32**Toni Kroos****Real Madrid & Germany****Position:** Midfielder ★ **Age:** 25

Kroos was Madrid's missing link before arriving at The Bernabeu in 2014! Now he's one of their star men and runs the midfield!

31**Gerard Pique****Barcelona & Spain****Position:** Centre-back ★ **Age:** 28

Cutting up the net after winning the CL final last season capped an epic treble for Pique in 2015! He's been class this season, too!

30**James Rodriguez****Real Madrid & Colombia****Position:** Att. midfielder ★ **Age:** 24

James grabbed 13 goals and 13 assists in La Liga last season! His killer through balls and rocket shots send Madrid fans wild!

29**Karim Benzema****Real Madrid & France****Position:** Striker ★ **Age:** 27

Benzema netted 15 La Liga goals last season, then hit six in seven starts in 2015-16! We'd love to see him in the Prem!

28**Arjen Robben****Bayern Munich & Holland****Position:** Winger ★ **Age:** 31

Robben scored a career best 17 league goals last season! He was Bayern's joint-top scorer and won the Bundesliga title!

27**Sergio Busquets****Barcelona & Spain****Position:** Def. midfielder ★ **Age:** 27

Barça gaffer Luis Enrique says Busquets is the best midfielder in the world! The classy DM reads the game like a legend!

26**Javier Mascherano****Barcelona & Argentina****Position:** CB/Def. mid. ★ **Age:** 31

Masch is a rock at the back for Barça and an international megastar for Argentina! He's one of the toughest tacklers around!

25**Thibaut Courtois****Chelsea & Belgium****Position:** Goalkeeper ★ **Age:** 23

Courtois ended Petr Cech's legendary Chelsea career, won the Premier League and helped Belgium qualify for Euro 2016!

24



David de Gea

Man. United & Spain

Position: Goalkeeper ★ Age: 25

United's 2014-15 Player Of The Year didn't let an on-off move to Real Madrid wreck his form. Some of his saves were jaw-dropping!

23



Pierre-E. Aubameyang

Borussia Dortmund & Gabon

Position: Striker ★ Age: 26

PEA was Dortmund's top scorer last season with 25 goals in all comps, then bagged 25 goals in his first 22 games in 2015-16!

22



Mesut Ozil

Arsenal & Germany

Position: Att. midfielder ★ Age: 27

Ozil won the FA Cup last season, then smashed the all-time Prem record by assisting a goal seven games in a row in 2015-16!

21



Thiago Silva

PSG & Brazil

Position: Centre-back ★ Age: 31

Silva's a rock in PSG's defence and is probably the best CB in the world right now! He's a born leader and a heading machine!

20



Antoine Griezmann

Atletico Madrid & France

Position: Forward ★ Age: 24

Griezmann's 22 league goals last season bagged him a place in La Liga's Team Of The Season! We think he'll be a hit at Euro 2016!

19



Gareth Bale

Real Madrid & Wales

Position: Forward ★ Age: 26

Gaz was crazily good in Wales' march towards Euro 2016 qualification - their first major tournament since 1958!

18



David Silva

Man. City & Spain

Position: Att. midfielder ★ Age: 29

Silva makes City's midfield tick and was one of the stand-out stars at the start of 2015-16! His vision and dribbling rule!

17



Andres Iniesta

Barcelona & Spain

Position: Midfielder ★ Age: 31

Iniesta won the treble last season, and helped Barça destroy Real Madrid 4-0 in 2015-16 with a goal and an assist!

16



Zlatan Ibrahimovic

PSG & Sweden

Position: Striker ★ Age: 34

Zlat won a domestic treble with PSG, then fired Sweden to the Euros by destroying Denmark single-handedly in the play-offs!

15



Eden Hazard

Chelsea & Belgium

Position: Winger ★ Age: 24

Hazard's deadly dribbling and finishing helped Chelsea win the Prem title, and bagged him the PFA Player Of The Year award!

14



Harry Kane

Tottenham & England

Position: Striker ★ Age: 22

Kane's lethal shooting saw him bust net on his England debut and grab the No.10 shirt at Spurs! What a 2015 he's had!

13



Paul Pogba

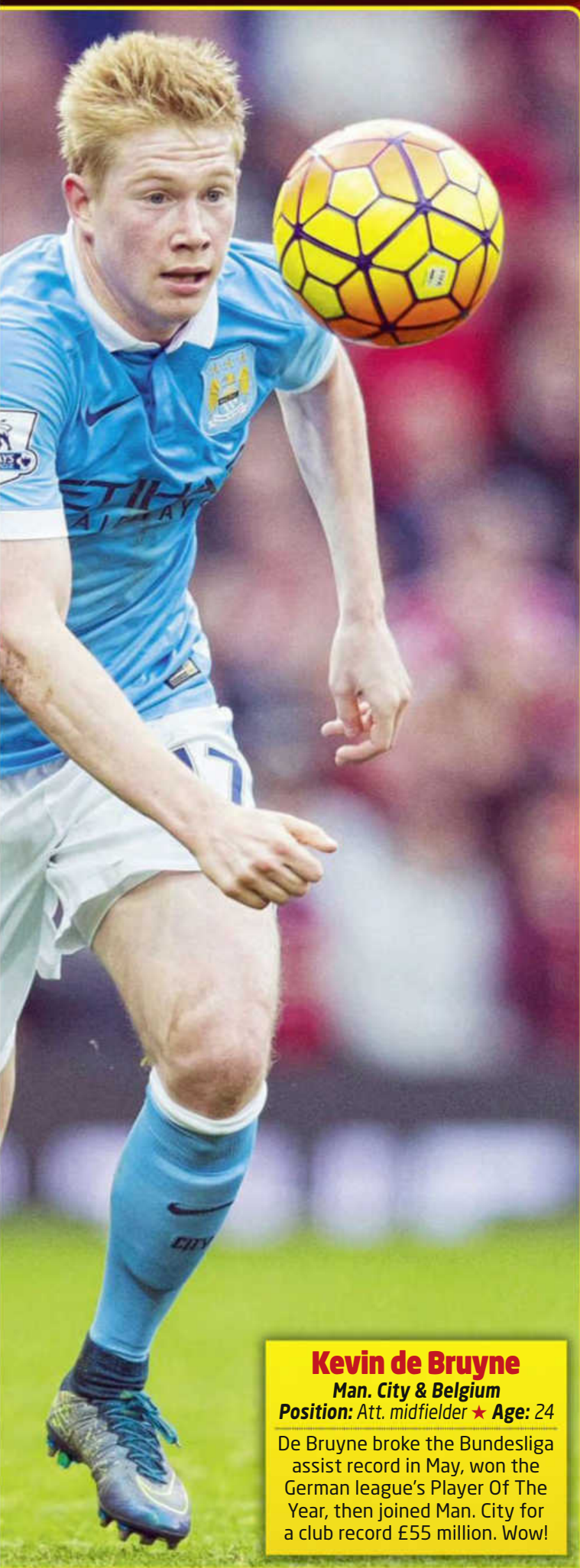
Juventus & France

Position: Midfielder ★ Age: 22

Pogba's mind-blowing displays in 2015 helped Juve reach the CL final and prove he's the hottest young talent in Europe!

12





Kevin de Bruyne

Man. City & Belgium

Position: Att. midfielder ★ **Age:** 24

De Bruyne broke the Bundesliga assist record in May, won the German league's Player Of The Year, then joined Man. City for a club record £55 million. Wow!

11



Arturo Vidal

Bayern Munich & Chile

Position: Midfielder ★ **Age:** 28

Vidal had an incredible run in the CL with Juve, bagged Chile's first-ever Copa America then joined Bayern for £28 million!

10



Thomas Muller

Bayern Munich & Germany

Position: Forward ★ **Age:** 26

The best brain in footy has already gone past the 20-goal mark this season! He ripped it up for Germany in 2015, too!

9



Manuel Neuer

Bayern Munich & Germany

Position: Goalkeeper ★ **Age:** 29

Neuer gets better every year! The world's best keeper had another incredible season and won the Bundesliga in May!

8



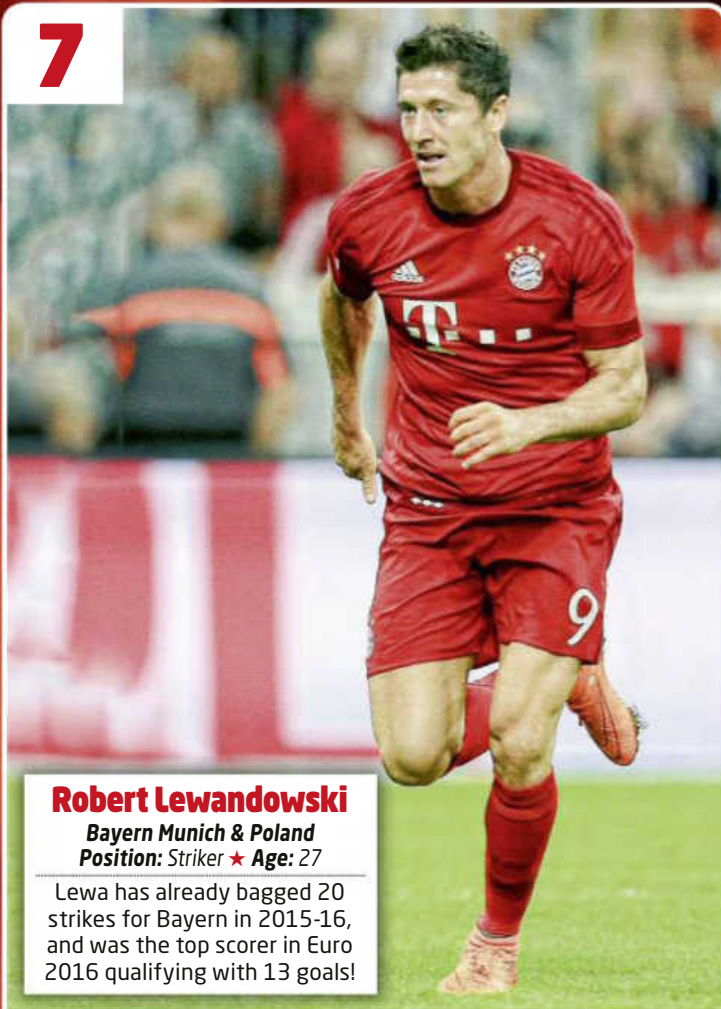
Ivan Rakitic

Barcelona & Croatia

Position: Midfielder ★ **Age:** 27

Barça's unsung hero has been the perfect replacement for Xavi! Scoring the opener in the CL final capped off an epic season!

7



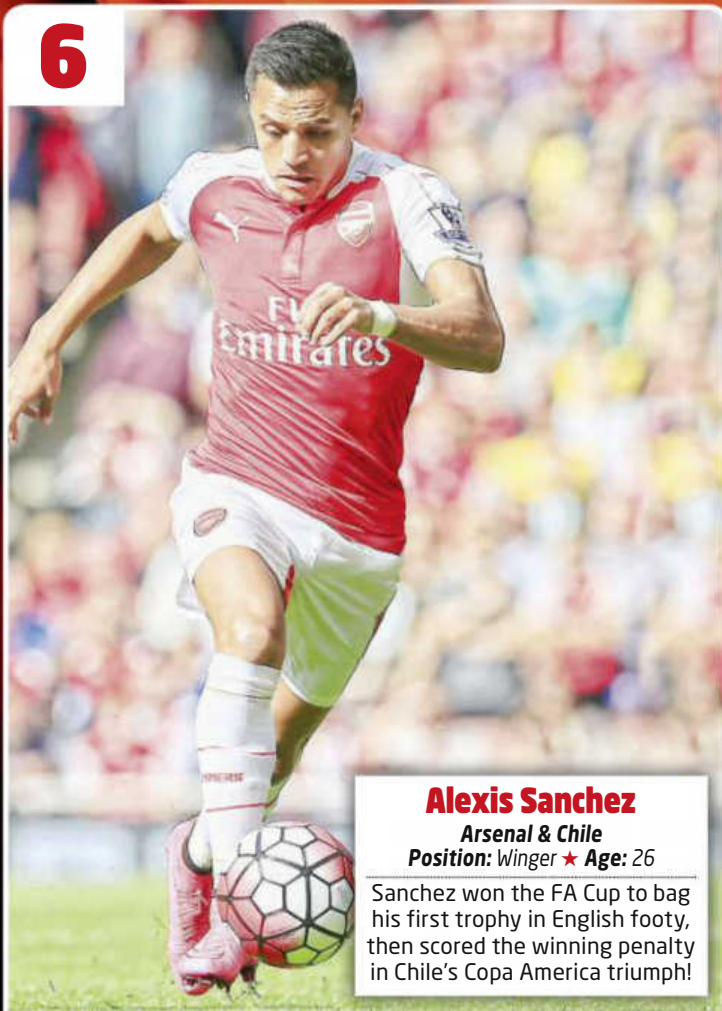
Robert Lewandowski

Bayern Munich & Poland

Position: Striker ★ **Age:** 27

Lewa has already bagged 20 strikes for Bayern in 2015-16, and was the top scorer in Euro 2016 qualifying with 13 goals!

6



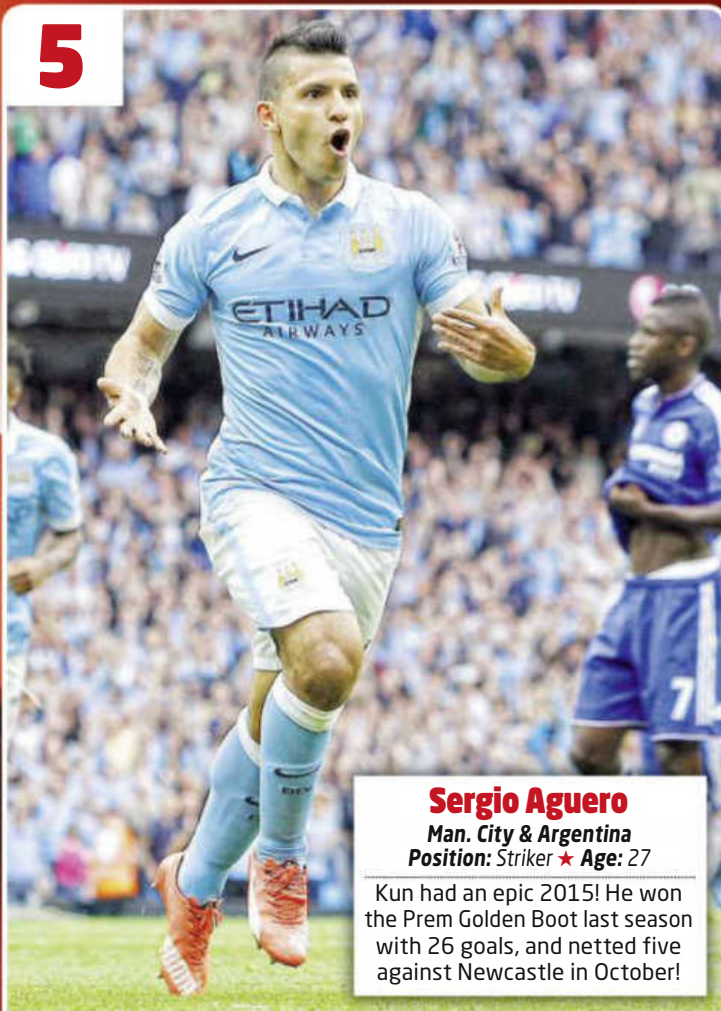
Alexis Sanchez

Arsenal & Chile

Position: Winger ★ **Age:** 26

Sanchez won the FA Cup to bag his first trophy in English footy, then scored the winning penalty in Chile's Copa America triumph!

5



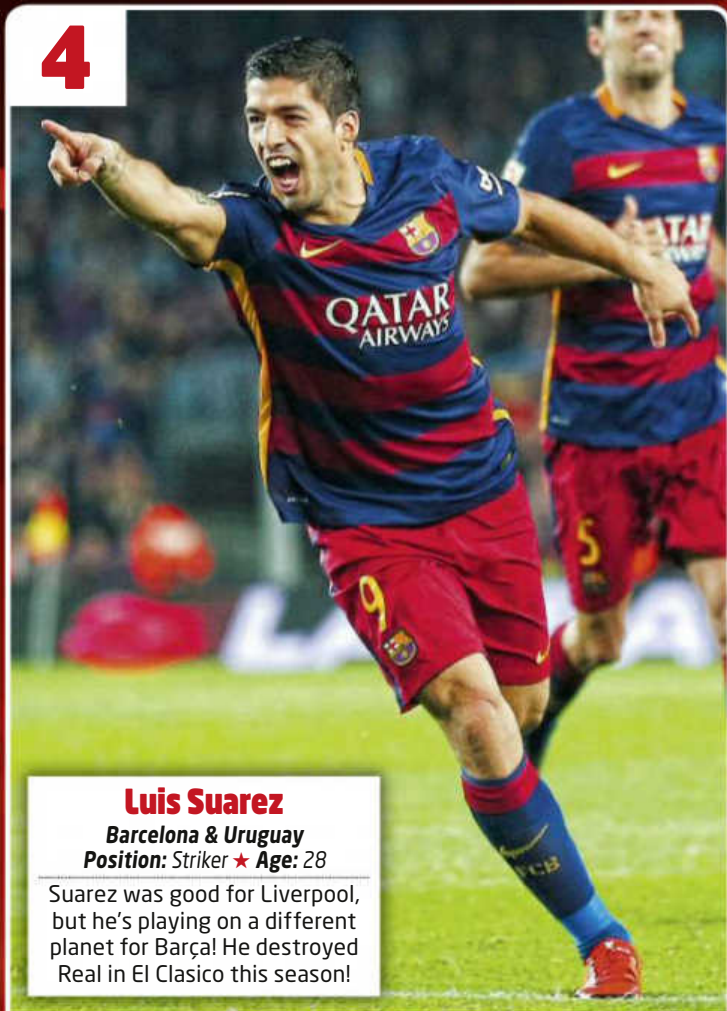
Sergio Aguero

Man. City & Argentina

Position: Striker ★ **Age:** 27

Kun had an epic 2015! He won the Prem Golden Boot last season with 26 goals, and netted five against Newcastle in October!

4



Luis Suarez

Barcelona & Uruguay

Position: Striker ★ Age: 28

Suarez was good for Liverpool, but he's playing on a different planet for Barça! He destroyed Real in El Clasico this season!

3



Neymar

Barcelona & Brazil

Position: Forward ★ Age: 23

Neymar's finishing and tricks make him one of footy's coolest stars! He stepped up big-time when Messi was out injured!

2



Cristiano Ronaldo

Real Madrid & Portugal

Position: Forward ★ Age: 30

Ron started an epic year by winning the Ballon d'Or award in January, then became Los Blancos' all-time top scorer in October. Awesome!

1



Lionel Messi
Barcelona & Argentina
Position: Forward ★ **Age:** 28

Top spot has to go to Leo! Messi got over 60 goals and assists combined in 2015, and won an incredible treble! His top 2015 moments include destroying Bayern in the CL semi-finals and scoring one of the best goals ever in the Copa del Rey final!

TOP SKILLS	
Dribbling	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, yellow, orange, red);"></div> 10 </div>
Finishing	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, yellow, orange, red);"></div> 10 </div>
Free-kicks	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 88%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, yellow, orange, red);"></div> 9 </div>
Speed	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 88%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, yellow, orange, red);"></div> 9 </div>
Vision	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 88%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, yellow, orange, red);"></div> 9 </div>

Position: Forward ★ **Age:** 28

TOP SKILLS

Dribbling		10
Finishing		10
Free-kicks		9
Speed		9
Vision		9



Send your top 10 and details to:
Top 100 Players Of 2015,
MATCH, Media House, Lynchwood,
Peterborough, PE2 6EA
We'll choose a winner at random.
Closing date: January 31, 2016.

WIN AN APPLE WATCH!

Don't agree with us? Fill in your top 10 below for the chance to win an **Apple Watch Sport worth £299!**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

NAME:

AGE:**ADDRESS:****POSTCODE:****TELEPHONE:****EMAIL:**

LOVE MATCH?

GET IT DELIVERED EVERY WEEK!

SAVE
UP TO
60%!*

*60% saving applies when you choose the 50-issue print & digital package paying by Direct Debit.



IT'S SO EASY!

MAG FROM
ONLY **£1.40**
PER WEEK



CHECK OUT OUR
BEST DEALS! ▶

CALL 
01858 438 884
QUOTE: ELF1

ONLINE 
**www.greatmagazines.
co.uk/match**

Subscriptions will start with the next available issue. The minimum term is 25 issues. After your first 25/50 issues (6 months/1 year), your subscription will be continued at this offer price, every 25/50 issues thereafter unless you are notified otherwise. You will not receive a renewal reminder and the Direct Debit payments will continue to be taken unless you tell us otherwise. Prices include postage for print and packaging. This offer closes on December 30, 2015. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Cost from landlines for 01 numbers per minute are (approximate) 2p to 10p. Cost from mobiles per minute are (approximate) 10p to 40p. Costs vary depending on the geographical location in the UK. You may get free calls to some numbers as part of your call package - please check with your phone provider. Order lines open 8am-9.30pm (Mon-Fri), 8am-4pm (Sat). UK orders only. Overseas? Please phone +44 1858 438 828 for more details. Calls may be monitored or recorded for training purposes. For full terms and conditions, please visit www.greatmagazines.co.uk/offer-terms-and-conditions

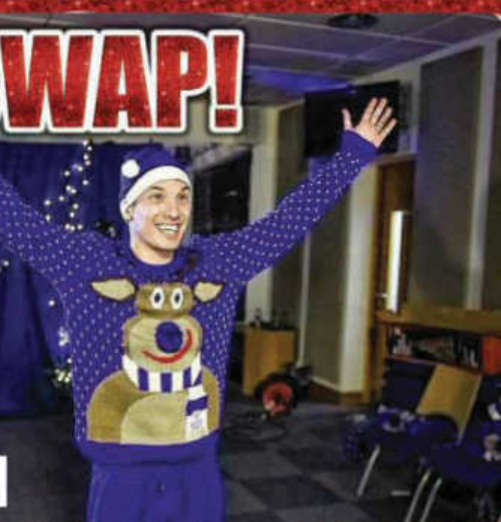
BIG MATCH! QUIZ

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL 1



JOB SWAP!

Which Everton ace is trying out a modelling career for The Toffees' Xmas range?



1. Elf



2. Star

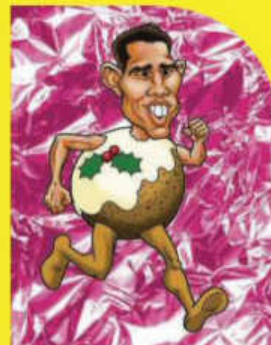
GUESS THE STARS!



Can you name these Christmas cartoon footy stars?



3. Santa Claus



4. Christmas Pudding

MATCH! WINNER!



Who scored the only goal when Liverpool beat Burnley 1-0 on Boxing Day last year?



Which Euro giants wear this shocking kit in 2015-16?



Which competitions were these ball used in during 2015?



1. Nike Ordem 2 Pink



2. Mitre Delta Hyperseam



3. Nike Ordem 3



4. Adidas Finale 15

NAME THE TEAM!



Can you remember the Spain XI that beat England 2-0?

1. Goalkeeper ★ Porto

Centre-back ★ Barcelona

MARC BARTRA

2. Def. midfielder ★ Barcelona

3. Centre-back ★ Barcelona

4. Striker ★ Chelsea

5. Striker ★ Valencia

6. Midfielder ★ Barcelona

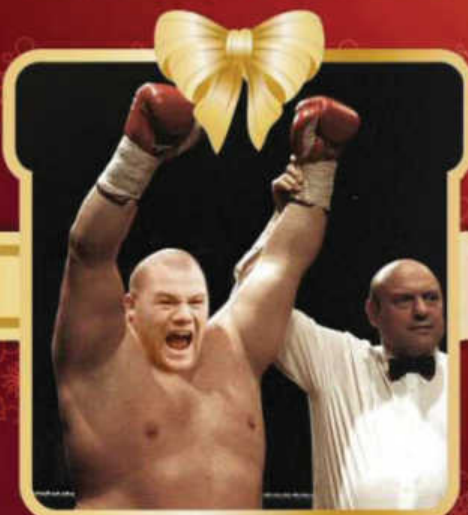
7. Midfielder ★ Chelsea

8. Right-back ★ Villarreal

9. Midfielder ★ Bayern Munich

10. Left-back ★ Barcelona

BOXING DAY BRUISER!



Which Man. United superstar looks like he's ready for a scrap on Boxing Day?



Match these grounds to the class clubs that play in them!

New York
Stadium



1

Craven Cottage



2

Molineux



3

City Ground



4

A



Fulham

B



Nottingham
Forest

C



Rotherham

D



Wolves

**ANSWERS ARE
ON PAGE 60!**

WIN!

LOVELL soccer

We've teamed up with our mates at Lovell Soccer to give away FIVE awesome pairs of firm ground footy boots!

Cool Footy Boots!

Adidas Messi 15.1

The messiTOUCH, messiFRAME, messiPRINT and messiGAMBETRAX technology make these FG/AG kicks a total winner!



Nike Mercurial Vapor X CR7

These lightweight boots are perfect for players with explosive speed - like Cristiano Ronaldo! The crazy lava design rocks, too!



New Balance Furon Pro

The orchid colourway will make you stand out big-time, while the Ultralight Phantom Fit cage helps make the Furons mega strong!



Puma evoPOWER 1.2 POP

These eye-popping boots are worn by Fabregas and Giroud! The BAM and POW graphics on the heel and instep look awesome!

5 PRIZES

CLOSING DATE: Jan. 8

Lovell Soccer offer free personalisation on all their boots. For more info, head over to www.lovellsoccer.co.uk

LOVELL soccer



Nike Hypervenom Phinish

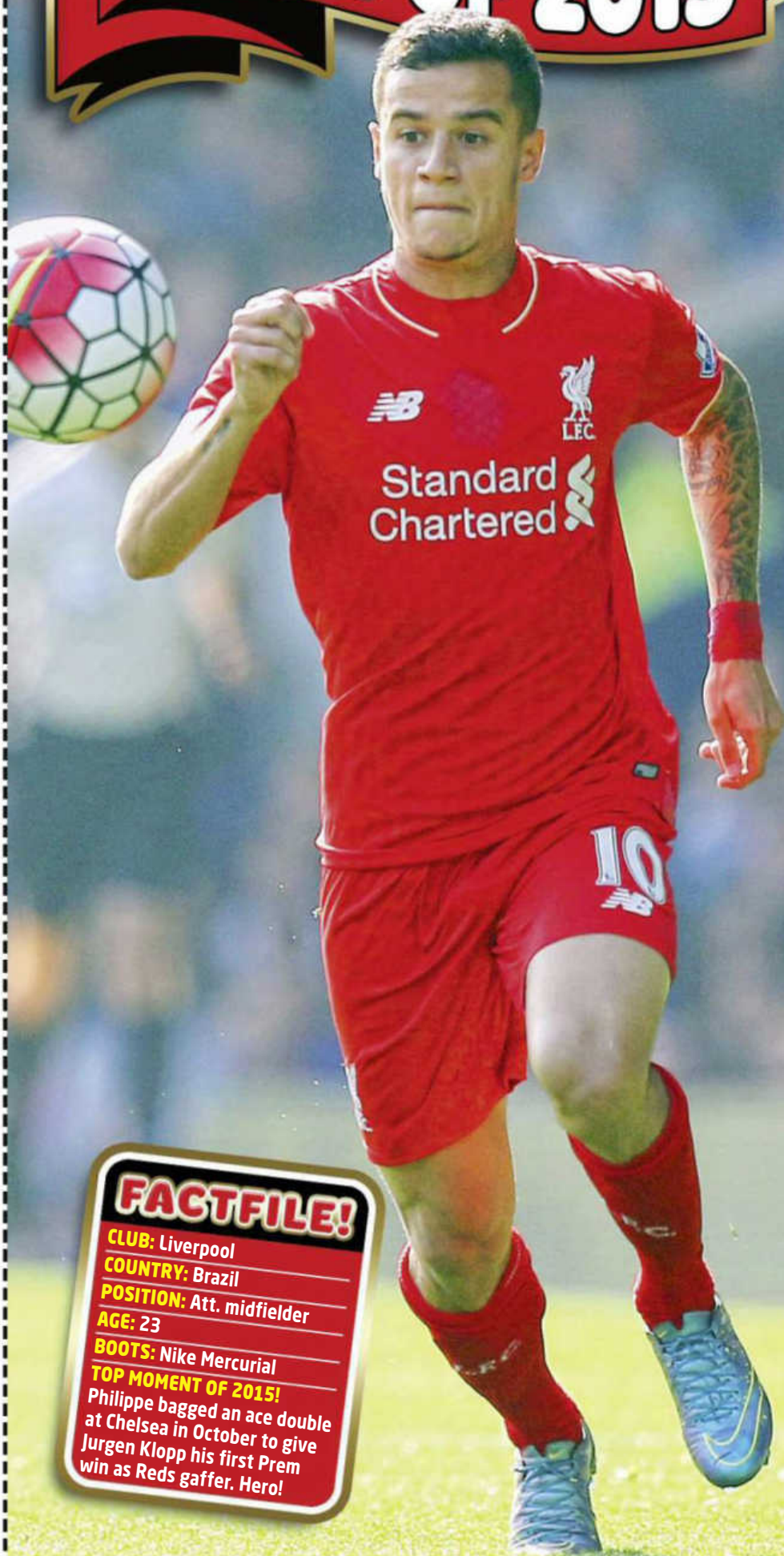
This is the new colourway of the lethal Hypervenom boots made famous by goal machines Neymar, Rooney, Lewandowski and Vardy!

HOW TO ENTER!

<http://winit.matchmag.co.uk>

Competition winners must be aged 16 or under. For full T&Cs, turn to page 63.

STARS OF 2015



FACTFILE!

CLUB: Liverpool

COUNTRY: Brazil

POSITION: Att. midfielder

AGE: 23

BOOTS: Nike Mercurial

TOP MOMENT OF 2015!

Philippe bagged an ace double at Chelsea in October to give Jurgen Klopp his first Prem win as Reds gaffer. Hero!

COUTINHO

MATCH!
THE BEST FOOTBALL MAGAZINE!

CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL! CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL! CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL! CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL!



SNAPPED!

BEST OF 2015 PART 2

**Suarez
the goal
hanger!**

IT'S
WHY I RIP
SO MANY
NETS!

Epic fail!

Did Jose Mourinho
forget to buy his
Secret Santa?

OH NO, JT
IS GONNA BE
SO ANGRY!

PLEASE
DON'T MAKE
ME GO!

**Filling for
Coutinho!**

It looks like Liverpool's
magic man needs a
trip to the dentist!

**Too
many
Xmas
puds?**

I NEED
TO GO ON
A DIET!

**Incredi-Bale
Hulk!**



RU2 Brothers?

What is Carlisle's Bastien Hery thinking?

IT'LL CATCH ON SOON, JUST WATCH!



Edinson Gurn-vani!

The PSG goal king hates Marmite!



Bayern's Got Talent!

Smelly Sneijder!

No more Brussels sprouts for you, Wes!

DON'T PRESS YOUR BUZZER, COWELL!

I'VE RIPPED MY SHORTS!

Neymar's epic beats!

I LOVE A BIT OF JUSTIN BIEBER!

WHO WANTS SOME?

LAST-MINUTE GIFT IDEAS!

Haven't sorted out your Christmas list yet? Don't worry, check out these awesome last-minute ideas!

1 CR7 True Snapback

We love the cool lava design on this Cristiano Ronaldo Nike cap!

Price: £19.99 lovellsoccer.co.uk

2 Puma evoPOWER 6 Trainer Ball

This ball is modelled on the ace new evoPOWER boot colourway!

Price: £7.99 lovellsoccer.co.uk

3 MATCH Annual 2016

The best annual on the planet is the ultimate stocking filler!

Price: £7.99 Allgoodbookshops

4 Adidas Originals Backpack

This class backpack has loads of different compartments!

Price: £26 jdsports.co.uk

5 Football Street Signs

You can get Arsenal, Newcastle, Man. United and Everton signs, too!

Price: £7 each nationalfootballmuseum.com/shop

6 Nike Mercurial Superfly FG

The Mercurial studs are inspired by spikes worn by Olympic sprinters!

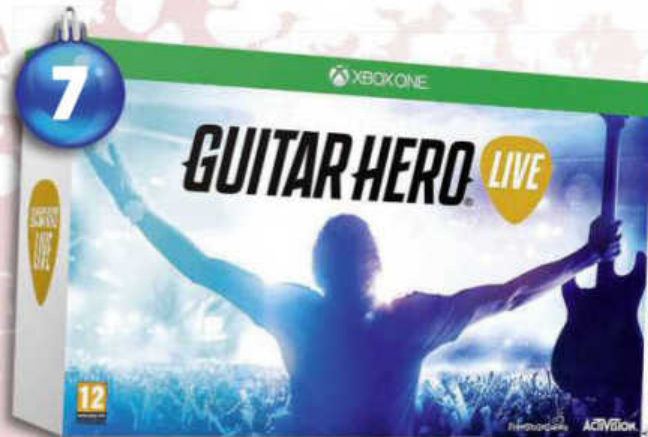
Price: £230 store.nike.com

7 Guitar Hero Live with Controller

The legendary rock game is back and better than ever!

Price: £71.54 amazon.co.uk





7



8

8 Sigma: Life Deluxe Edition

The deluxe version features seven exclusive bonus tracks!

Price: **£12.99** amazon.co.uk

9 Reusch Pulse Deluxe Gloves

These top-class gloves have a massive ball-catching area!

Price: **£139.99** lovellsoccer.co.uk

10 Scotland 2016 Home Shirt

The awesome new Scotland shirt is available in junior sizes, too!

Price: **£55** jdsports.co.uk

11 Adidas ACE 15.1

These ultra-stylish Adidas boots are built for playmaking heroes!

Price: **TBC** lovellsoccer.co.uk

12 Ear Force Recon Gaming Headset

You can use this quality gaming headset on PS4, Xbox One and PC!

Price: **£39.99** turtlebeach.com

13 FIFA 16 Xbox One

Thrash your mates during the Christmas holidays with this!

Price: **£34.99** amazon.co.uk

14 Star Wars: Battlefront

This wicked game is made for Jedi and Padawans alike!

Price: **£51.40** amazon.co.uk

15 Juventus UCL Training Jacket

Wrap up warm during footy training or at a match in this!

Price: **£89.99** hitbag.com

16 Iron Man Arc FX Armour

Pretend you're the awesome superhero with these bad boys!

Price: **£22.99** amazon.co.uk



9



10



11



12



15



13



14



16

TURN OVER FOR MORE TOP GIFTS...



17 Ant-Man DVD

Ant-Man can shrink in size but increase in strength!

Price: £9.99 amazon.co.uk

18 New Balance Visaro Pro SG

These sick boots are designed to help offer you an epic touch!

Price: £134.99 lovellsoccer.co.uk

19 Personalised Mitre Football

Personalise your own size 5 Mitre ball with your name or a message!

Price: £30 mitre.com

20 PES 2016 PS4

In the latest version of Pro Evo, 1v1 player control has improved!

Price: £39 amazon.co.uk

21 Star Wars Compression

This Darth Vader compression t-shirt comes in junior sizes, too!

Price: £44.99 lovellsoccer.co.uk

22 Northern Ireland 2016 Away Shirt

The Green and White Army will wear this slick shirt at Euro 2016!

Price: £55 jdsports.co.uk

23 Spain Euro 2016 Presentation Suit

Support the reigning European champs in this ace tracksuit!

Price: £84.99 kitbag.com

24 Nike Mercurial Superfly Trainers

These sick trainers are inspired by the CR7 Savage Beauty boot pack!

Price: TBC store.nike.com





25 Champions League Replica Trophy

This wicked 18cm replica trophy looks just like the real thing!

Price: £70
nationalfootballmuseum.com/shop



26 Aubameyang Dortmund Shirt

Bag a Dortmund home shirt with Aubameyang's name and number!

Price: £64.94 kitbag.com



27 Adidas X Pro Lite Shinpads

These flash-looking shinpads will protect you from tough tackles!

Price: £16.99 kitbag.com



28 Nike Magista Opus FG

If your game's all about passing, then these slick boots are for you!

Price: £160 store.nike.com



29 Barcelona Camp Nou 3D Puzzle

Bring the Nou Camp to life with this wicked 3D puzzle!

Price: £30
nationalfootballmuseum.com/shop



30 Everton Xmas Jumper

This ace Everton Xmas jumper is a perfect prezzie for any Toffees fan!

Price: £30 evertondirect.com

31 Samba Mitre PlayFast Goal

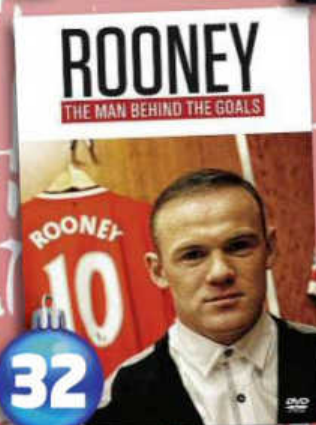
This portable goal can be put together in under 60 seconds!

Price: £220.12 sambasports.co.uk

32 Rooney – The Man Behind The Goals

This ace DVD has access to the United captain's off-the-pitch life!

Price: £9.99 amazon.co.uk



Z K Q K
Q N T C
L U D H
I O Q N
V V Z Y

WORDSEARCH

Can you find the 30 awesome goal machines in this massive grid?

U L V J
C E T D
X B E E
N L Z D
B T Q V

N N A M Z E I R G S F R M E T Q K J O Z Y Z V U U C B R Y F
J P B J L I H U Y V H I G U A I N J Y Y J Y V G E W X A N H Z Z
C V V X T Y T B Z K V Q A K L W D S A Z F A P X P B P E T E J P
I M X J W M D Y B A L A T I V B I E I E M I V T B R N B R Q G J
U Y B F A P I O T K N Y Y H F B K B X B N B N O O R E A Q X V U
Z N W R V R C V F R U D U K L R A D G K R O Q N N R U C G R H M
A V Z S Z H Y C D Y O R A G R N E Y M A R A A E D S A X M D A B
U K E I I N J X J O B A T S H U A Y I G W L H F D E U F N Y S V
A I Z Y K J G T B Q N V Z I J J K L C N D B K I N A J M W U Z Y
M C M K D H Z P G K L B W V G P Z G V O V A M T M E V C D U S P
T E C T T M D A T J W J F M O U K A N D J O S E S O X R H N A H
O R B A H Z W U
I R V B B A P D
X R B L I C U P
H H J C C O Z G
B H K I R E M X
F Z H I A T J P
Y K G U T T V Q
C S Q A C E B E
C A N D C Z U K
H A V X G A Q Y
G Y R K A C E X
P F D A F A Y A
Z T G L I L S Z
L F W I F R A H
U Z K N K Q A G
K F E I K K E R
A Q I C I Z J L
K O K M N C C D
U N S C A P Z R
K R W D V J R V
M X O K A W E F
G C D N C L L C
Z N N B F A L L D T W U H Y W T I N T C C S X T E A P
M V A Q R D U L D D T W H R P W T T T I G H A L O D
F J W Y V P M X B H F Z E D N A N R E H K L F L D
L M E M E K R W I L H N Y G S Q X U B H S A U K U
M G L S A M S M G Q G L P A Z U J V D H K K R D
T V K N R C A B E I I E D L N F M O Z V N P O
O T E L U Q W B S G K U U D N T S W Q C M P J
B O G M U C B N U F R D X W C T N F Y W D T M
P U I E L A I E Z A D W B X R E L H E Z N R B



Aduriz	Gervinho	Lacazette
Agirretxe	Giroud	Lewandowski
Aguero	Griezmann	Lukaku
Aubameyang	Hernandez	Moukandjo
Bacca	Higuain	Muller
Batshuayi	Ibrahimovic	Neymar
Ben Arfa	Ighalo	Reus
Cavani	Insigne	Ronaldo
Dost	Kalinic	Suarez
Dybala	Kane	Vardy

S F V A J B J F
U E Y I S G U M
U X V L C J Y Q
I T Z V W B W C
O E Q Y L N T D
B R L U Q L Q M
M R A X A M A C
Y I K E Q S N Z
W G L N J U O X
I A L C R E Y A
F C L K A R E O
R C S A D Y P T
N Q S G U N W V
K J G U R J I F
A Q E E I K D S
H A R R Z P P G
X F V O H I W X
Q R I Q O K V L
F A N Z O L O J
R N H E V
Z E O W I
S B J Y W



WHAT ANIMAL LOVES WET WEATHER? A RAIN-DEER. LOL!

STARS OF 2015



FACTFILE!

CLUB: Chelsea

COUNTRY: Belgium

POSITION: Winger

AGE: 24

BOOTS: Nike Mercurial

TOP MOMENT OF 2015!

Eden scored the only goal of the game v Crystal Palace in May to clinch Chelsea's first Prem title since 2010. Ledge!

H A Z A R D

MATCH!
THE BEST FOOTBALL MAGAZINE!

CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL! CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL! CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL! CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL! CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL!

SECRET SANTA!

Check out the ace presents MATCH would get the stars this Xmas!



DON'T YOU DARE BENCH ME, JOSE!

DIEGO COSTA
CHELSEA

STRESS BALL

We'd get the Chelsea striker a stress ball! He needs to calm down and stop getting so angry all the time!

NOW TIME FOR THE HOCUS FOCUS!

NEYMAR
BARCELONA

MAGIC SET

When the Samba star hangs up his boots, he's defo got a career as a magician lined up! His tricks are mind-blowing!

HOW DO I DO THIS UP AGAIN?

ARSENE WENGER
ARSENAL

VELCRO COAT

The Arsenal gaffer is always struggling to zip up his massive coat, so he'd find a Velcro jacket much easier!

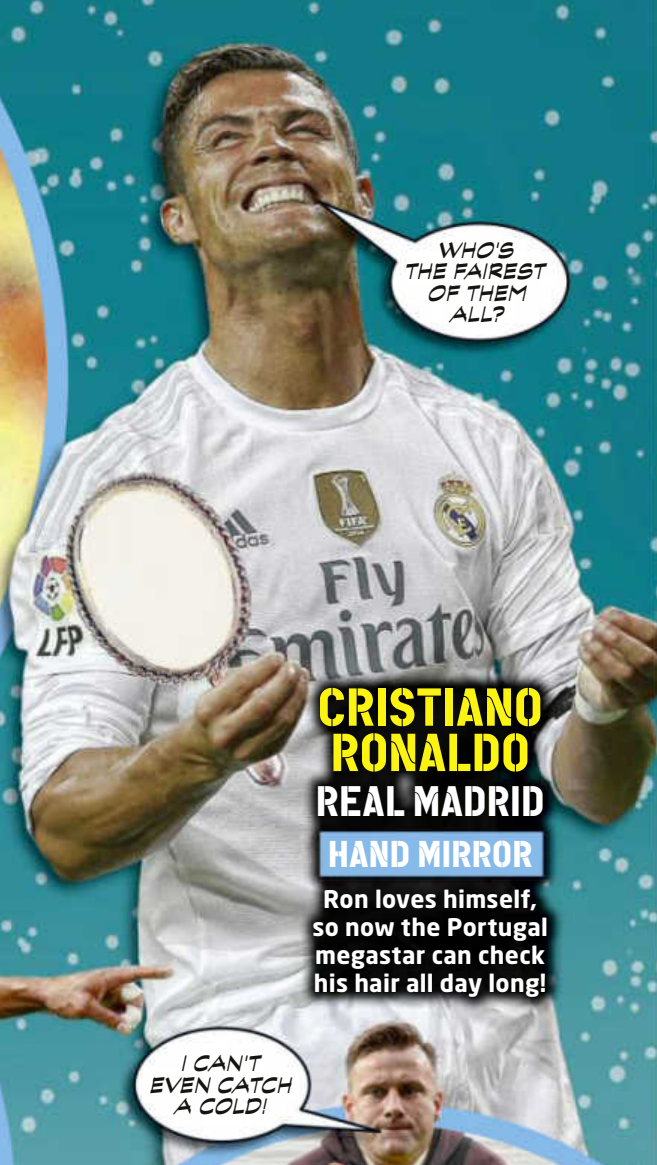




JAMIE VARDY
LEICESTER

FIRE EXTINGUISHER

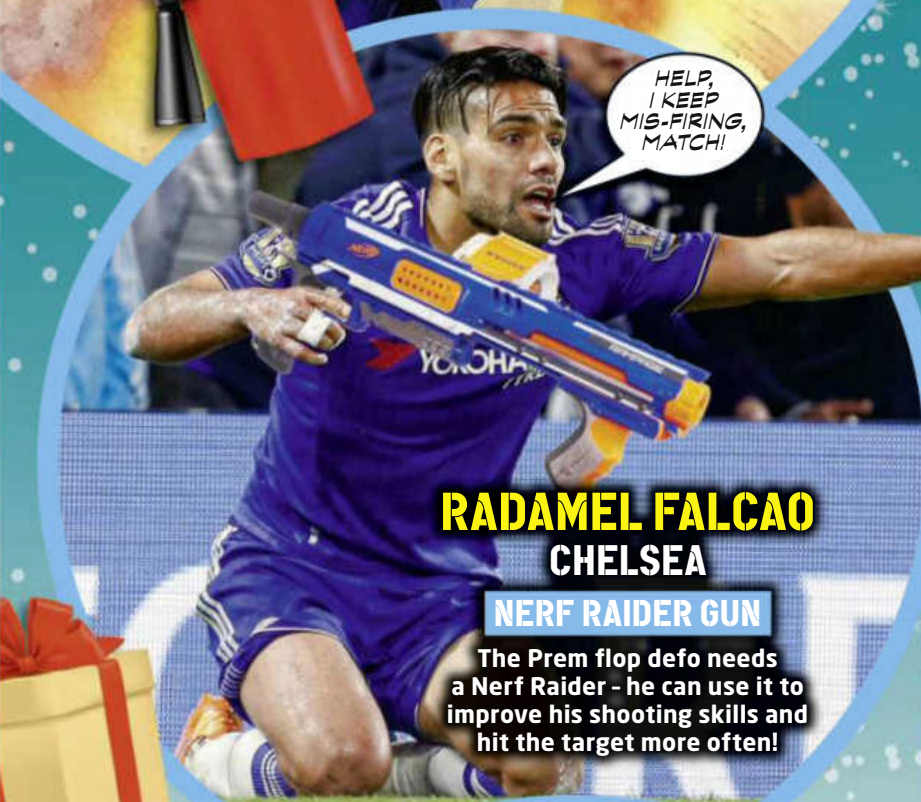
The Prem's top scorer is on fire right now, so we've bought him an extinguisher to put out the flames!



CRISTIANO RONALDO
REAL MADRID

HAND MIRROR

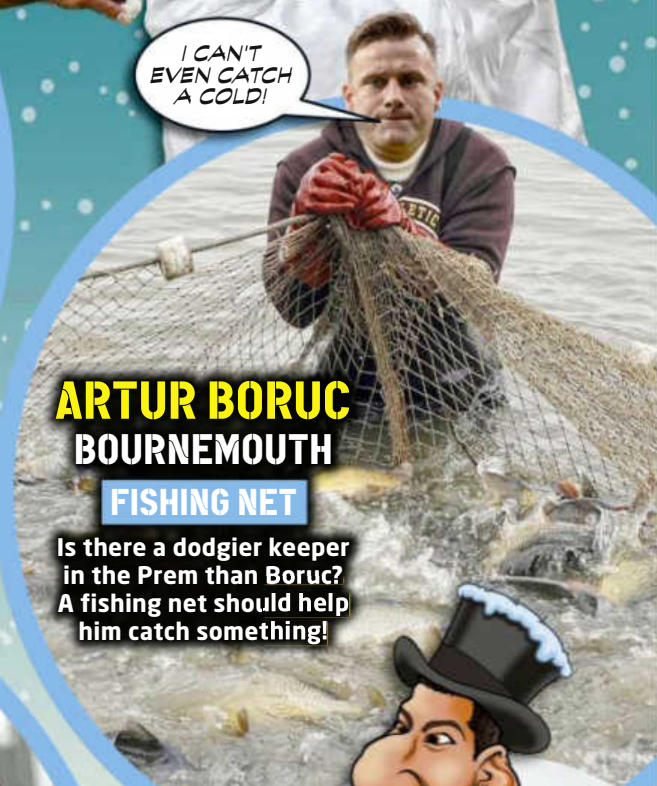
Ron loves himself, so now the Portugal megastar can check his hair all day long!



RADAMEL FALCAO
CHELSEA

NERF RAIDER GUN

The Prem flop defo needs a Nerf Raider - he can use it to improve his shooting skills and hit the target more often!



ARTUR BORUC
BOURNEMOUTH

FISHING NET

Is there a dodgier keeper in the Prem than Boruc? A fishing net should help him catch something!



DANIEL STURRIDGE
LIVERPOOL

FIRST AID KIT

Studger gets a first aid kit from MATCH! The Reds hitman can use all the bandages and plasters he wants for his dodgy injuries!



MATCH'S

12 DAYS



Check out the 12 things you need to look out for during the festive fixtures!



GUNNERS GUNNING

Arsenal's toughest match this month is against Man. City on December 21. **Their players and gaffer** will be mega pumped to try to fire The Gunners top on Xmas Day!



WICKED WONDERKIDS

There are loads of awesome young guns ripping up the Premier League right now! Watch out for **Can, Barkley, Martial, Dier, Stones, Bellerin, Alli, Sterling, Redmond, Deulofeu** and **Watmore** over Christmas!



BRAZILIANS BALLIN'

Coutinho, Fernando, Fernandinho, Firmino, Kenedy, Lucas, Oscar, Gabriel, Ramires, Willian - the Premier League is overflowing with Samba superstars!



DRIBBLERS DANCING

We love watching players who can dance rings around defenders, and the Premier League's got some of the best! **Zaha, Hazard, Sanchez, Montero, Mahrez, Bolasie, Mane, Dembele** and **Perez** all own opponents with their sick dribbling skills!



MATAS MAULING

Man. United's classy No.8 has been one of their best players this season, and we reckon he'll keep destroying defenders in December!



SWANS ARE SINKING

Swansea are stinking out the Prem and **lost seven of their first 16 games in all comps!** They've got Man. City and Man. United over the Xmas period, too. Yikes!



GERMANS PLAYING



Ozil's an assist king, **Wolscheid, Mertesacker** and **Huth** love a crunching tackle, and **Can** and **Schweinsteiger** boss midfield!

OF XMAS!



FIVE GOLDEN WINS



Liverpool could go on an epic run over the festive period - all of their next five Prem games look winnable! Their toughest opponents will be Leicester on Boxing Day!



COOLEST SHIRTS

There will be some top kits on show over Christmas! Our faves include **Crystal Palace**, **Tottenham** and **Arsenal**'s home shirts, while **Liverpool**'s third strip is sick!



FRENCH MEN



Three of the Prem's top France stars will go head-to-head on December 28 when Man. United battle Chelsea! Could **Zouma**, **Martial** or **Schneiderlin** be the match winner at Old Trafford?



GOLDEN GLOVES

We can't wait for the early kick-off on Boxing Day - two of the best keepers in the Premier League face off! Can Stoke's **Jack Butland** come out on top, or will it be **David de Gea**'s day?



JACK WHO?



AND A GOAL FROM JAMIE VARDY

Leicester have got some really tough games this month, and their last one is definitely the hardest! Can goal machine **Jamie Vardy** fire The Foxes to a famous win over Man. City on December 29?

"MY WEIRDEST XMAS PRESENT!"

Top Prem stars tell MATCH their most bonkers Xmas gifts!



"MY AUNTIE GOT ME ONE OF THOSE BELLS YOU RING AT RECEPTION, BECAUSE APPARENTLY I ALWAYS MAKE MY MUM RUN AROUND AFTER ME!"

PATRICK BAMFORD
Crystal Palace



"THE MOST RANDOM PRESENT I'VE EVER BEEN GIVEN WAS SOME BIG BLACK EARRINGS FROM MY AUNTIE. I HAVEN'T WORN EARRINGS SINCE I WAS 18, SO THAT WAS RANDOM!"

THEO WALCOTT
Arsenal

"THE WEIRDEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT I'VE EVER RECEIVED WAS A CAR TYRE INFLATOR FROM MY MOTHER-IN-LAW!"

JAMES McCLEAN
West Brom



"PROBABLY SOCKS. I TRIED TO APPRECIATE THEM AND PRETEND I WAS VERY HAPPY, BUT IT HAPPENS EVERY YEAR! I DON'T KNOW WHICH FAMILY MEMBER FEELS THAT I NEED SOCKS - I'LL MAKE A NOTE OF IT THIS YEAR!"

RYAN BERTRAND
Southampton



"YOU KNOW THOSE THINGS THAT YOU HAVE TO BUILD? IT'S LIKE A PUZZLE, AND YOU HAVE TO WORK OUT HOW IT ALL FITS TOGETHER - I HAVE NO PATIENCE FOR THEM! THEY KNOW I DON'T LIKE IT - WHY DO THEY GIVE IT TO ME?"

MIKEL ARTETA
Arsenal



"MY NAN GOT ME A CIGAR HOLDER FROM CORNWALL AND I'VE NEVER SMOKED IN MY LIFE, SO THAT'S THE WEIRDEST ONE! THEN MY UNCLE GOT ME THIS CHEAP TURKISH BRANDY, WHICH WAS DISGUSTING. IT TASTED LIKE PETROL!"

TROY DEENEY
Watford

STARS OF 2015



FACTFILE!

CLUB: Tottenham

COUNTRY: England

POSITION: Striker

AGE: 22

BOOTS: Nike Hypervenom

TOP MOMENT OF 2015!

Kane scored a wicked header 79 seconds into his England debut against Lithuania at Wembley back in March!

KANE

MATCH!
THE BEST FOOTBALL MAGAZINE!

CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL! CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL! CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL! CUT OUT AND STICK ON YOUR WALL!

WIN!

**GET A
LOAD OF
THESE
COOL
PRIZES!**

A Signed England Away Shirt!



**CLOSING
DATE:
Jan. 8**



**The signed
England away shirt
is a men's large size
and comes with
a certificate of
authentication.**



We've teamed up with our mates at The FA to give away a signed England away shirt to one MATCH reader!

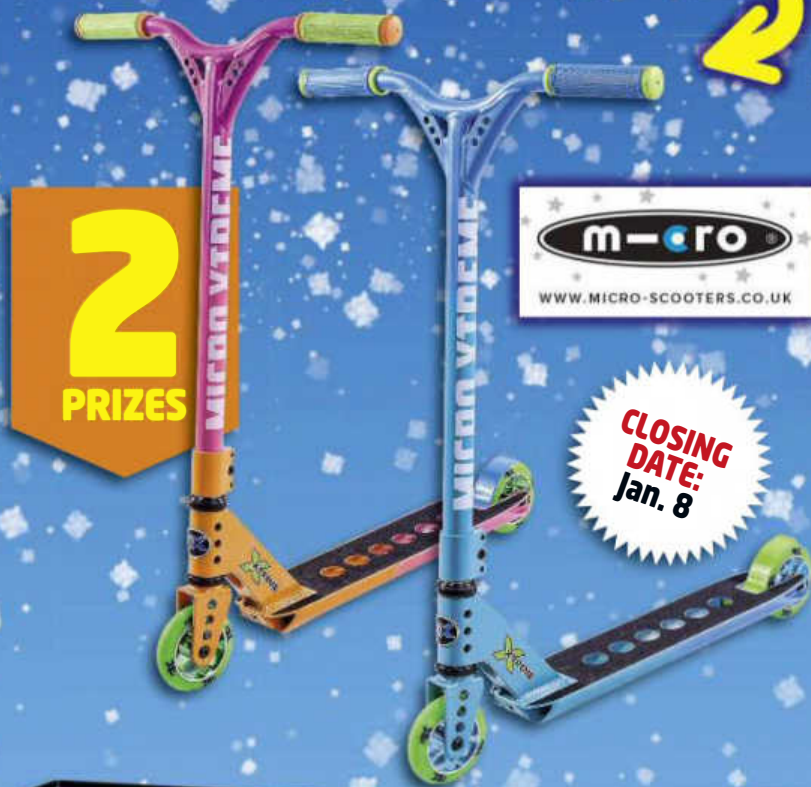
Tickets for England v Netherlands on Tuesday, March 29 are on sale at TheFA.com/tickets or by calling 0844 847 2010 subject to availability.

**HOW TO
ENTER!**

<http://winit.matchmag.co.uk>

Competition winners must be aged 16 or under. For full T&Cs, turn to page 63.

Epic Micro MX Trixx Scooters!



**2
PRIZES**

**CLOSING
DATE:
Jan. 8**

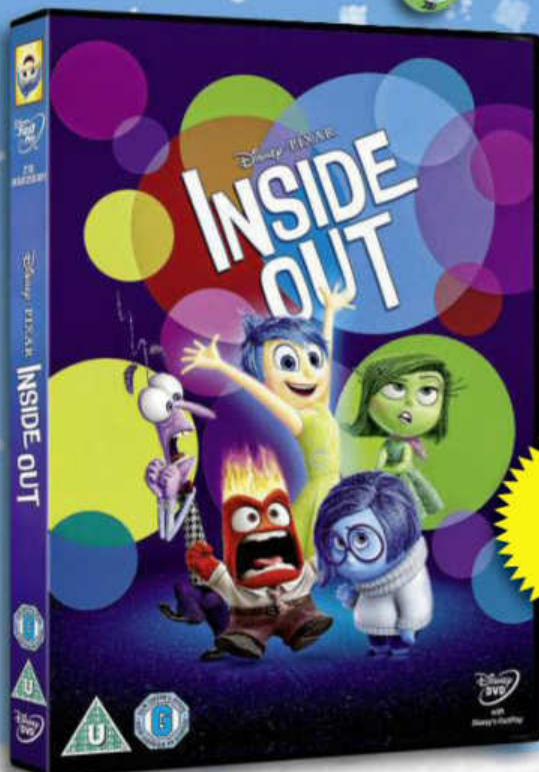


Thanks to our mates at Micro Scooters, we've got two awesome MX Trixx stunt scooters up for grabs!

The new range of MX Trixx scooters from Micro Scooters helps you perform tricks, jumps and stunts in style thanks to the lightweight aluminium, concave deck and shorter bars! Find out more at www.micro-scooters.co.uk

Winning prizes and stunt scooter colours are subject to availability and may vary from pictures shown.

Inside Out DVD!



**CLOSING
DATE:
Jan. 8**



**5
PRIZES!**

To celebrate the release of Inside Out, five MATCH readers will each win a copy of the ace film on DVD!

Inside Out is available on Disney•Pixar 3D Blu-ray™, Blu-ray™, DVD and digital now!

**HOW TO
ENTER!**

<http://winit.matchmag.co.uk>

Competition winners must be aged 16 or under. For full T&Cs, turn to page 63.

WIN!

**GET A
LOAD OF
THESE
COOL
PRIZES!**

X-SHOT Bug Attack Blasters!

Five lucky MATCH readers will win an X-SHOT Bug Attack Eliminator and Rapid Fire each! These wicked blasters totally rock!

**5
PRIZES!**



**CLOSING
DATE:
Jan. 8**

The double barrel with pump action can shoot darts at bugs from up to 17 metres away!

X-SHOT Bug Attack Rapid Fire

1x Rapid Fire
Dart Blaster
2x Wall Crawl Bugs
8x Darts



X-SHOT Bug Attack Eliminator

1x Eliminator
3x Wall Crawl Bugs
8x Darts

ZURU™

For loads more
wicked toys,
check out
www.zuru.com

Unload the 6-dart barrel in less than 30 seconds and watch the bugs fall from the wall!

**HOW TO
ENTER!**

<http://winit.matchmag.co.uk>

Competition winners must be aged 16 or under. For full T&Cs, turn to page 63.

Prizes subject to availability and may vary from pictures shown.

FIFA 16 & Stoke Tickets!



EA SPORTS are offering one reader a pair of tickets to see Stoke play Aston Villa on Saturday, February 27! The winner will bag a copy of FIFA 16 on either Xbox One or PS4, too!



EA SPORTS is the Official Sports Technology Partner of the Barclays Premier League. The EA SPORTS Player Performance Index is the official statistical index of all 20 Barclays Premier League teams. The EA SPORTS Team Of The Week is available at www.premierleague.com/en-gb/players/ea-sports-ppi-team-of-the-week after each round of matches. The team will be based on ratings from the EA SPORTS Player Performance Index.

Chelsea Home Shirt & Junior Membership!



**3
PRIZES!**



Three MATCH readers will win a Chelsea kids home shirt and True Blue Junior Membership, thanks to our mates at Chelsea!

Competition open to under-13s only.

Junior Membership at Chelsea is available for just £20. Visit chelseafc.com/membership for more info.



**HOW TO
ENTER!**

<http://winit.matchmag.co.uk>

FIFA 16 comp winner must be aged 16 or under. For full T&Cs, turn to page 63.

BIG MATCH! QUIZ

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL 2

MERRY MASOCOT

Which Prem club's mascot can't get enough of Christmas?



FROSTY BADGES!

1. Name the English clubs' badges that are covered in frost! 2.



3. 4. 5. 6.



1.



2.

Beardy Weirdey!

Which Euro stars are rocking the Santa look?



3.



4.

SECRET SANTA!

Which Spurs hero is dressed up ready to dish out the presents on Xmas Day?



Which Prem goal machine is starring in How The Grinch Stole Christmas?

FOOTY AT THE FILMS!

ACTION REPLAY

How much do you remember about Arsenal's 5-2 win over Leicester back in September?

1 How many English players started the match - two, three or four?

2 Who bagged a wicked hat-trick for The Gunners?

3 True or False? Leicester were unbeaten before this clash!

5 Who started up front for Arsenal - Giroud, Walcott, Welbeck or Campbell?

6 True or False? Arsenal ace Mikel Arteta came on as a first-half sub and got booked!

4 Which team had the most possession?

7 Which Gunners defender got two assists?

8 Who scored the opening goal at the King Power Stadium?

TURN OVER FOR
THE ANSWERS!

QUIZ ANSWERS!

Footy Mis-Match

P.18

See below.

Christmas Special 1 P.36-37

Job Swap: Leon Osman.

Guess The Stars:

1. Sergio Agüero; 2. Marouane Fellaini;
3. Santi Cazorla; 4. Robin van Persie.

MATCH! Winner: Raheem Sterling.

Crazy Kit: Porto.

Snow Balls: 1. FA Cup; 2. Football League;
3. Premier League; 4. Champions League.

Name The Team:

1. Iker Casillas; 2. Sergio Busquets;
3. Gerard Pique; 4. Diego Costa; 5. Paco
Alcacer; 6. Andres Iniesta; 7. Cesc Fabregas;
8. Mario Gaspar; 9. Thiago; 10. Jordi Alba.

Boxing Day Bruiser: Wayne Rooney.

Stadium Game: 1-C; 2-A; 3-D; 4-B.



Wordsearch

P.46

See right.

Christmas Special 2 P.58-59

Merry Mascot: West Brom.

Beardy Weirdy:

1. Zlatan Ibrahimovic; 2. Arjen Robben;
3. Lionel Messi; 4. James Rodriguez.

Frosty Badges:

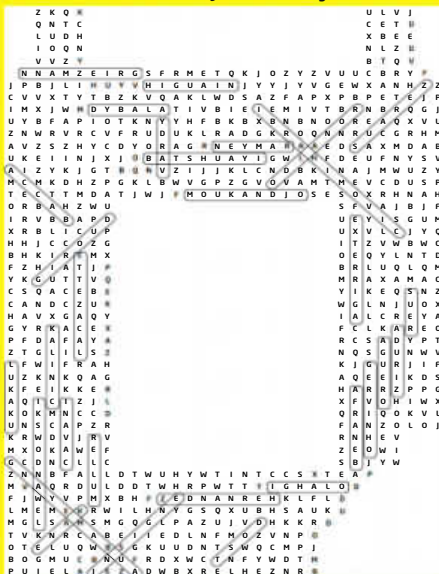
1. Man. United; 2. Derby; 3. Watford;
4. Man. City; 5. Birmingham; 6. Wolves.

Secret Santa: Harry Kane.

Footy At The Films: Jamie Vardy.

Action Replay:

1. Four - Drinkwater, Vardy, Albrighton
& Walcott; 2. Alexis Sanchez; 3. True;
4. Arsenal; 5. Theo Walcott; 6. True;
7. Nacho Monreal; 8. Jamie Vardy.



One point for each correct answer!

MY SCORE

/87



YOUR SCORE AS XMAS PRESSIES!

80-87

Xbox One console!

60-79

CR7 footy boots!

40-59

Epic stunt scooter!

20-39

Tin of Celebrations!

0-19

Smelly old socks!



NEXT ISSUE!



**MEGA QUIZ
OF 2015!**

**MASSIVE 12-PAGE
PULLOUT!**



**REMEMBER, THE NEXT ISSUE IS
OUT ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29!**

did you know?

Impress your mates with these Christmas footy facts!



3

Last season, **Leicester** became only the third team to avoid relegation after being bottom of the Prem on Christmas Day!

10

Tottenham are unbeaten in their last ten Prem games on Boxing Day, winning seven!



50

Man. United are the only team in English footy to win 50 league games on Boxing Day!



3

West Ham only won three Prem games after Christmas Day last season. Ouch!



4



Aston Villa haven't scored a single goal in their last four Boxing Day fixtures. Shocking!



6

Jermain Defoe has scored more Prem goals on Boxing Day than any current player. Ledge!



Gareth Bale was the last player to score a hat-trick on Boxing Day, back in 2012!



WHAT DO YOU GET IF YOU EAT XMAS DECORATIONS?
TINSEL-ITIS!



OUT NOW ON iPAD & ANDROID!

EVERY WEEK YOU'LL GET...

- ★ **RED-HOT GEAR**
- ★ **TOP FIFA 16 TIPS**
- ★ **EPIC STATS & FACTS**
- ★ **BONKERS PICS**
- ★ **TOUGH QUIZZES**
- ★ **& LOADS MORE!**

JUST
£1.49
per issue!

Google play



JUST
£1.49
per issue!

Download on the
App Store



MATCH!
THE BEST FOOTBALL MAGAZINE!

CONTACT US

Address: MATCH Magazine,
Bauer Media, Media House,
Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6EA
Email: match.magazine@bauermedia.co.uk
Subscriptions: 01858 438 884



➤ If you or someone you know are aged between 16 and 24 and are interested in work experience opportunities at Bauer Media, head to www.gothinkbig.co.uk

EDITORIAL

Phone: 01733 468 008
Editor: James Bandy
Deputy Editor: Stephen Fishlock
Sub-Editor/Writer: Ben Wier
Staff Writer: Jamie Evans
Head Of Publishing: Darryl Tooth
Senior Art Editor: Calum Booth
Junior Art Editor: Stuart Garneys
Contributors: Russ Carvell
& Ross Copping

ADVERTISING

Group Commercial Director:
Charlie Brookes
Regional Business Manager:
Graham Roby: 0161 868 3220
Sales Executive:
Curtis Reed: 0207 520 6542

MARKETING

Phone: 01733 468 139
Marketing Manager Of Sport:
Gillian Giannioti
Direct Marketing Manager: Julie Spirens
Direct Marketing Executive:
Rebecca Lambert
Head Of Newstrade Marketing:
Leon Benoiton
Newstrade Marketing Manager:
Karen Caruso

PRODUCTION

Phone: 01733 468 377
Printed by Wyndeham Peterborough
Distributed by Frontline

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND BACK ISSUES

To ensure you don't miss an issue and for top offers, visit www.greatmagazines.co.uk
For subscription or back issue queries

Email: bauer@subscription.co.uk
Phone from the UK: 01858 438 884
Phone from overseas: +44 1858 438 828

BAUER CONSUMER MEDIA

Commercial Director Of Sport: Donna Harris
Head Of Digital: Charlie Calton-Watson
Group Direct Marketing Director: Chris Gadsby
Finance Director: Lisa Hayden
Group Finance Director: Sarah Vickery
Managing Director Of Sport: Patrick Horton
Group Managing Director: Rob Munro-Hall
CEO: Paul Keenan

MATCH magazine is published 50 times a year by Bauer Consumer Media Ltd, whose registered office is at 1 Lincoln Court, Lincoln Road, Peterborough, PE1 2RF.

Registered in England and Wales company number 01176085, VAT no. 918 5617 01.

No part of the magazine may be reproduced in any form in whole or in part, without prior permission of the publisher. All material published remains the copyright of Bauer Consumer Media Ltd. We reserve the right to edit letters, copy or images submitted to the magazine without further consent. The submission of material to Bauer Media whether unsolicited or requested, is taken as permission to publish in the magazine, including any licensed editions throughout the world. Any fees paid in the UK include remuneration for any use in any other licensed editions. We cannot accept any responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts, images or materials lost or damaged in the post. Whilst every reasonable care is taken to ensure accuracy, the publisher is not responsible for any errors or omissions nor do we accept any liability for any loss or damage, howsoever caused, resulting from the use of the magazine.

COMPETITION TERMS & CONDITIONS

Winners are chosen at random by an independent person from correct entries received and only winners will be notified by email. No employees of Bauer, or their families or companies involved, can enter. MATCH reserves the right to award an alternative prize of no lesser value; no cash alternative. Editor's decision is final; choice of prize is final. No postal entries can be returned. MATCH will not enter into correspondence and takes no responsibility for delayed, lost or incomplete applications. No purchase necessary. Prizes subject to availability and may vary from pictures shown. Chelsea home shirt and junior membership competition is open to under-13s only. All other competition winners must be aged 16 or under and must have permission from a parent or guardian to enter. EA SPORTS winner receives a pair of tickets in the home end of fixture. Includes 1x promo copy of FIFA 16 on the new Xbox One or PS4. EA SPORTS competition winners are responsible for their own travel arrangements. MATCH and all prize providers will not be liable for prizes that do not reach the winner beyond reasonable control. Name, county and photograph of winners may be used for post-event publicity purposes without additional remuneration. Entrants will be deemed to have accepted these T&Cs and agree to be bound by them when entering MATCH competitions. For a full list of our competition winners, please visit <http://winit.matchmag.co.uk/winners>. Full competition T&Cs can be viewed online at www.bauerlegal.co.uk/competition-terms.html

COMPLAINTS

Bauer Consumer Media Limited is a member of the Independent Press Standards Organisation (www.ipso.co.uk) and endeavours to respond to and resolve your concerns quickly. Our Editorial Complaints Policy (including full details of how to contact us about editorial complaints and IPSO's contact details) can be found at www.bauermediacomplaints.co.uk. Our email address for editorial complaints covered by the Editorial Complaints Policy is complaints@bauermedia.co.uk



If you or someone you know are aged between 16 and 24 and are interested in work experience opportunities at **MATCH**, check out www.gothinkbig.co.uk



MISSED ANY ISSUES OF YOUR FAVE FOOTY MAG?

DON'T WORRY!

CALL 01858 438884
OR EMAIL bauer@subscription.co.uk
to order any issues you've missed!



New Balance Visaro & Furon

including FREE iD at **Lovell Soccer**



FREEiD

Prices start from only £34.99 including kids sizes